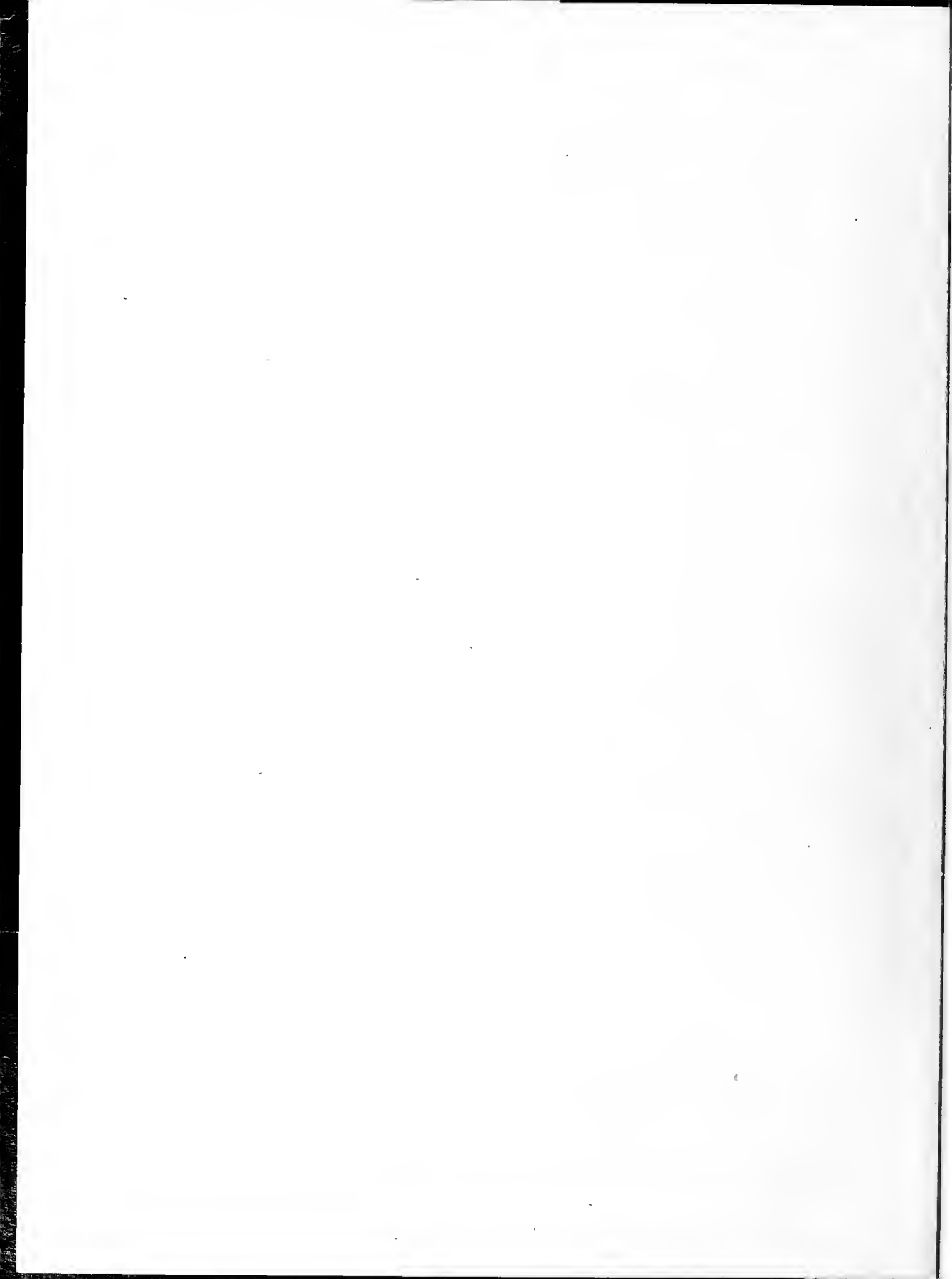


just a little

different

March 9/



Bailey
Mountain
Clogger
Kevin Griffin
teaches the
Lennons the
Macarena
during one of
the many
inaugural
activities. Dr.
Max Lennon,
a Mars Hill
graduate, was
only the
college's
fourth
president in
over a
Century.



just a little

Different

laurel 97

mars hill college
mars hill, nc 28754
volume 71
enrollment 1043





What made Mars Hill college just a little different in 1997? Was it a new President, only the fourth in over a hundred years? Maybe. Was it moving men to Women's hill, while reopening Edna Moore? Probably. Was it Greek Housing for the first time in school history? Sure, it was all of these things. But, the most important differences weren't the ones that were so recognizable. They weren't things that happen once a Century. They were things that were going on every day. They were the little things that make Mars Hill unique. It was the attitudes, the beliefs, the differences of it's people. Students came from different backgrounds, they held different beliefs. But, here they came together. They worked together. They lived together. They played together. It was the people within these hallowed walls that made the difference. It was the personalities. It was the friendships, the memories, the love. It was 1997. It was Mars Hill College. It was just a little different.

just a little

Different

The band plays during the first home football game.





With 20 hours of classes, 50 hours of homework, 54 hours of sleep, and 20 hours of eating, students still had 24 hours left each week to do whatever they wanted. They had an entire day of freetime. Some, of course, spent this time eating more, or sleeping more, a few even spent this time doing more homework. Others spent it working out, or going out. Some spent it in worship, some sports. Others couldn't decide what to do with it. Many students worked, many students spent their time helping others. Whatever they did, it was whatever they wanted to do. It was their life, and for most students their lives were just a little social.

just a little

Social

Hanging out outside Pittman dining hall has always been a popular place to be a little social.

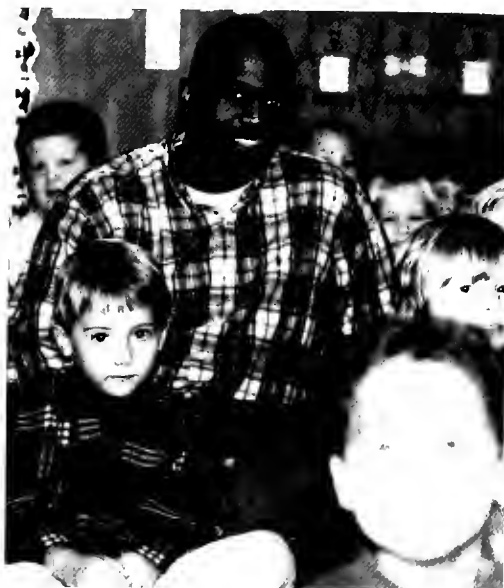
Helping Hands

At the United Way of the Piedmont's Youth Volunteer Corps recognition ceremony, Junior Danny Fusco receives an award for being the group's youth director. The United Way was one of the many agencies students found extra time to volunteer for.



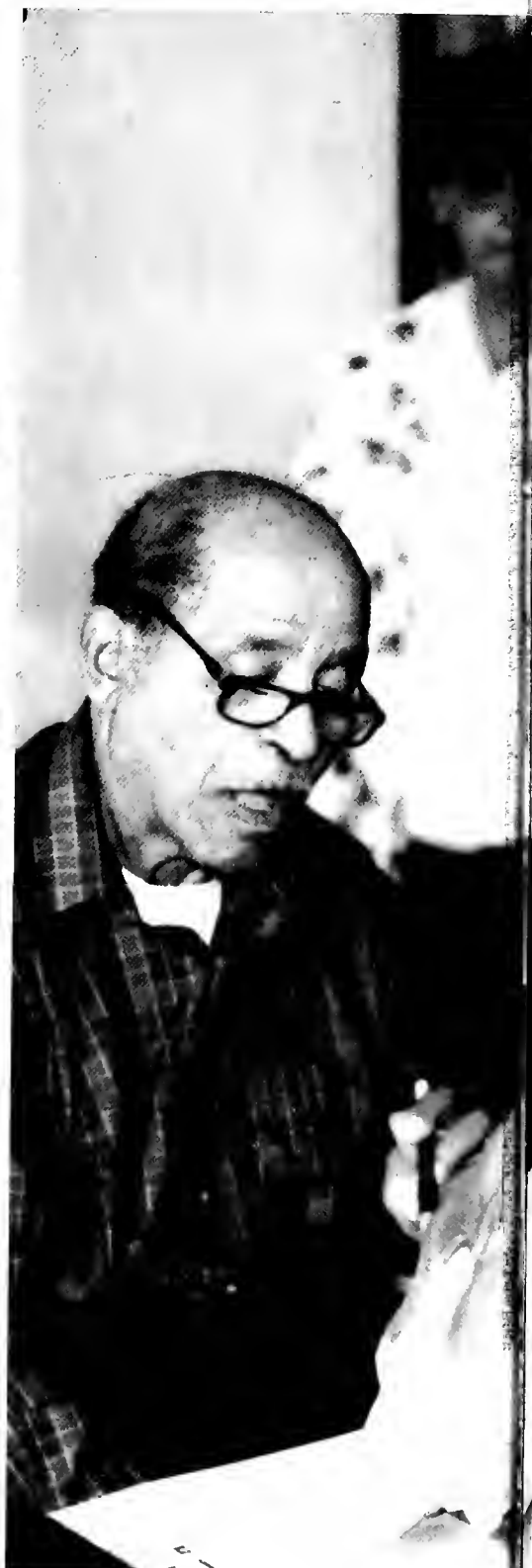
Story Time

Freshman Che' Curry leads a kindergarten class at Mars Hill Elementary during story time. Many students found that helping children was a very rewarding experience.



Food For the Hungry

As part of the Bonnor Scholar retreat, Jose' Ortega hauls refrigerated food at Manna Foodbank. Many Bonnor Scholars volunteered at Manna to fulfill their 150 hour per semester service requirement.





Learning through

Service



iteracy programs for illiterate, food for the hungry, homes for the homeless, and hope for the hopeless... Mars Hill College's founding principles were intended for students to not only learn how to participate in the classroom but in the community, as well.

There were several scholarships that rewarded students for long hours spent serving the community, which got many students into volunteering. Others simply followed the call of the community and did service work on their own. As a result, community service encouraged personal growth on campus.

Bonnor scholar, Danny Fusco believed "community service allows individuals the opportunity to serve others while learning from the experience, which in turn enhances one's learning environment."

Many students learned things about themselves from having done service. Sometimes this prepared them to meet the challenges of personal involvement that they will face after graduation. Laura Boivert, a pre-law major, said, "I find that in serving others, I am satisfying a need within myself to meet the needs of others. Community service is exactly what it says it is, a service to the community, including myself."

When Kari Russel volunteered her time with elderly members of her church, she "learned more about them and grew closer in (their) relationships." The same was true with Melissa Ward, who volunteered with the Baily Mountain Cloggers. She "enjoyed helping people and they kept (her) busy."

Whether it was helping a child learn to read, or a grandmother to walk again, students were committed to serving others. "Imitation is a great way to learn, service is a great way to understand," said David Mains.

--Greta Tedlock

Helping Out

Senior America Ayala helps a Madison Manor resident put the finishing touches on his ceramics project. America, who volunteers regularly at the Nursing home, was in charge of activities for the residents.

Mars Hill Alumni Rejoins His **Alma Mater**



Imagine, graduating from Mars Hill College, then over thirty years later returning as President. That's a dream that many students wish for. A dream that was fulfilled by an alumni in 1997. The student was Max Lennon, and on October 9th, he was inaugurated as the fourth president of MHC in over one hundred years. The 1960 graduate and his wife Ruth, also a Mars Hill grad, returned to their Alma Mater to bring it into the 21st Century.

Dr. Lennon's inauguration meant many things to many different people. Students were excited about the changes he was making. Not to mention having the day off from classes to attend the festivities. Faculty were eager to find out how Lennon would be as their Boss. Many of the professors did, after all, have him as a student. Visiting dignitaries were excited to hear about the future of their sister college. Everyone was, to say the least, excited. It was a time of rebirth. A time to renew tradition.

For a full week, campus was inundated with visitors, family friends, alumni. There was an organ dedication, a chapel service, a student dance, a bar-b-que, a luncheon, reception, and of course, the inauguration itself. When it was over, Mars Hill was tired, but ready. Ready to begin a new chapter. Ready to see how this new President would make Mars Hill just a little different.

--Melissa Blair

News Worthy

Senior Communication major Lara LeQuire is interviewed by the news crew from WLOS immediately following the inauguration. Many local television stations and newspapers covered the event.





Cake for Anyone?

Ruth Lennon cuts and serves cake at the afternoon inaugural reception. The reception, held in Peterson Conference Center, was directly after the dedication of Renfroe Library.



Standing-O

Dr. A. Max Lennon receives a standing ovation after he officially becomes the President of Mars Hill College. Lennon, a 1960 MHC Grad, left the presidency at Clemson university to return to his Alma Mater.

Wasting Time

Waiting for the ceremony to begin, John Payne and Ken Sanchirgin glance over the program. The faculty, dressed in full academic garb, waited in Spanhour for their procession to begin.



Tour Guide

Junior Whitney Davis gives her parents a tour of the newly completed Renfroe Library. Parents enjoyed touring the school, while visiting their children.



Football Fans

Laura Balmer and her parents intensely watch the first home football game. Laura's parents came to visit her from Florida.



Lunchtime

Freda Morgan and her parents enjoy a Pittman-style lunch. Most students enjoyed having their parents visit.





An Occasional Visit with the

Folks



At one time or another, most students had to face the sometimes scary prospect of a parental visit. Being faced with this prospect left many students scrambling to clean a dorm room, hide nefarious objects or generally conceal parts of their college lifestyle that mommy and daddy probably didn't need to know about (even if they were paying for it). For others, it meant the more pleasing possibility of being taken out to eat at a nice restaurant, catching up on family gossip, bragging about their good grades and most importantly getting a good hug.

Many student's parents once attended MHC themselves. Jamey Cook's parents both graduated from Mars Hill and visit often. "They take me out to eat, at least it's somewhere other than the cafe," said Jamey.

Students also found that adding a roommate to the family mix was an interesting experience. For some, bringing together the college and biological families was a strenuous task, but most students enjoyed the chance to blend together two important but in some cases very different parts of their lives.

Parental visits invoked many responses and were always welcome, and usually provided student's roommates with more information about your childhood than you really wanted them to know. Thanks Pa!

-- Paul Gresham

Leaving Home

Saying her final goodbyes, Jennifer Halsall prepares to return to school. Many students went home to see their parents on the weekends.

The Ultimate Goal of **Fitness**



itness in the 90's was a highly emphasized trend in society. Gyms, spas, exercise videos, and machines popped up from all directions. Many students at Mars Hill were involved in varsity athletics, and many others are involved in intramural sports. While others took a slightly less competitive view of fitness.

The students that weren't involved in athletics directly got plenty of workout from just walking around campus. Who needed "Buns of Steel" when the climb to the top of Men's or Hybrid Hill was workout enough.

For the students who wanted more of a challenge than just walking around campus, there was the infamous Bailey Street "loop" that stretched close to three and half miles. Mars Hill Students could be seen walking and running the "loop" everyday. Also available was the Taylor Fitness Center, which opened in 1995. This facility included weight machines, free weights, and cardiovascular equipment. The fitness center also became a social opportunity for students while they burned calories.

"I work out everyday to get better health and fitness and to gain muscle mass." said Freshman Chris Thomas.

With the many types of fitness options, it was hard to find inactive students. The hills on campus, scenic trails, weight room, and various athletic programs helped to create options for almost everyone.

--Jennifer Halsall

Working Hard

Freshman Mike Hinson takes advantage of the equipment in the Taylor Fitness Center. Mike was seen working out everyday.





Pull Downs

After a long day at school Deanna Bentley and Ithian Knight find that the best way to stay fit is to relax. Many students spent time at Hot Springs to relieve worn out muscle.



Hot Relaxation

Many athletes use Taylor Fitness Center to stay in shape. Baseball Player Jeremy West worked out regularly.

Fun Fitness

Competition isn't just found in Varsity athletics. Bobby Hodge, Andy Scott, and Richard Myers competed in the 40 yard dash during the Apartment Olympics, held by Residential Life.



We Got Spirit

Home games gave football fans a chance to get a little crazy. Many fans supported the players by shaking and rattling their keys.



Hot, Hot, Hot

Band Members get rowdy during a rendition of "Hot, Hot, Hot" performed with the help of Asheville High School's Steel Drum band. The Marching Band started practicing before students arrived back at school, and had four home games to perform in.



Tailgater

The Student Union Board hosted a tailgate party before the first home football game. Gamma Chi Epsilon and Zeta Chi Theta were two Greek organizations that participated.





Signs of life on a

Saturday?



as it the prospect of watching one hundred sweaty guys roll around in the mud or the chance to get out and socialize that drew so many students to Meares Stadium for four fun-filled Saturdays.

Whatever the reason the Mars Hill campus always came alive on game day. Tailgate parties were thrown, dances were held, trips home were postponed and students generally exercised their right to have fun. For some that meant the chance to reap the rewards of hours of band practice. To others it meant kicking back with old friends, and of course to some it meant the chance to blow off some steam and get a little crazy!

Getting a little crazy was definitely allowed on game day : fuzzy wigs, banners, yelling, shouting and screaming all made the grade. In fact, anything that demonstrated school spirit was positively encouraged.

Always adding to the mix were Mars Hill locals, many of whom have seen the ups and downs of lion football over the years, and prospective lion fans in the form of visiting high school students.

With such a mix of people, and school spirit riding high, home games proved to be a great source of entertainment for all kinds of people, and when the game was over, the night was young...

--Paul Gestling

Lion Pride

Rob Staton and Josh Callahan cheer on the home team. Many fans came out to support the lions during home games.

A Time to

Celebrate



lanning, planning and more planning went into the final preparations for homecoming weekend. From paw painting to float making, students became involved in a number of ways to insure that the weekend was packed with fun. The traditional Homecoming Parade was its usual hit with students, faculty, and townspeople coming out to watch and wave. There was much to celebrate and anticipate. In addition to the usual homecoming festivities, Mars Hill College's new president, Dr. Max Lennon, was inaugurated just after homecoming weekend. So the celebrating was extended for another several days. And no one complained about that!

Dressed To Clog

The Bailey Mountain Cloggers enjoy the homecoming parade from atop their float. For a

while the cloggers were escorted by the Sigma Alpha Chi sisters.

Party Down!

The Delta Phi Zeta float helps to create the party spirit among themselves as well as the crowd.



Markings

Julie Carter participates in the paw painting as she applies some blue paint to the outline of her hand.





Creative

The Delta Kappa Theta guys display their creativity in a float designed as a TV. The float was popular among the crowd.

Entertaining

Homecoming weekend is known for a wide variety of entertainment. Student groups as well as outside groups like this duo provided music for the festivities.



Hut, Hut

No parade is complete without a reminder of the football team and upcoming game.

Fan Support

The crowd watches the game with intensity. As always, the homecoming game was well attended.



All in the Family

Mars Hill College is a family tradition for siblings Brian Stork, Tiffany Stork, and James Stork. The brothers returned for homecoming and a visit with their sister.

Congratulations!

A hug and some flowers make the moment more special as Whitney Davis delights in being named 1996 Homecoming Queen.





*The day was marked with
an abundance of*

Anticipation



he air was full of excitement as the Mars Hill campus prepared for a weekend flurry of activity that culminated in the homecoming football game. Spirit was high during the Lion's Growl, the pre-game pep rally, and remained so throughout the game. The fans helped to pull the Lion's through a close game against the Blue Hose men. Halftime was exceptionally exciting as the 1996 Homecoming Queen, senior Whitney Davis, was recognized and crowned. Joy Moberg, the 1995 queen, was present to bestow the crown on the new queen.

Excitement from the game carried over into the post game activities which included reunions with old friends. Homecoming '96 was truly a time remembered as good.



The Crowning

Former homecoming queen, Joy Moberg, passes her crown to senior Whitney Davis during halftime.

Sweet Victory

The Lions played a strong Presbyterian College team and came away with a close 29-24 victory. Winning seemed to enhance the excitement of the

weekend as alumni and students exited the stadium and headed for the post game celebration parties planned over the beautiful fall campus

Non-traditional students walk to a

Different Beat



In average day for the nontraditional student started with a good hard bang to the alarm clock. After being up late the night before working on a paper that was due, the eyelids were heavy and needed to be propped open with toothpicks. Now was the time to stumble into the kitchen to put on that much needed pot of coffee. Only one sip went down before the activities began.



Hard at Work

Lynnette Collins, the author of this text, works during her internship hours at the Public Relations office on campus.

Let the dog out, get the kids up, prepare a quick breakfast, get the kids dressed, hair combed, teeth brushed, out the door and off to school. Now warm up that cup of coffee and prepare for a day of college classes. Better flip on the TV to catch a couple of minutes of news while getting dressed. This could be the only chance of the day to find out what's going on in the rest of the world.

Gather those books, that paper that took so long to complete last night, and pack that backpack. Throw a sandwich together, pack a car and head for "the Hill."

On the way to Mars Hill, questions began to run through the brain. Questions like: Did I remember to get that paper? What's on the

humanities test today? Will little Bradley pass his math test today? Did I put everything I need in that 63 pound backpack? Are the kids going to be all right while I'm in another county? And am I going to find a decent parking place?

After arriving on campus, finding a decent parking space, it was time to rush to morning classes. Take some notes, listen to a lecture and sweat through a test or two. Then it was lunch time. Heading for the car, which became a makeshift cafe, the nontraditional student enjoyed a cold sandwich and attempted to study. Between the noise of passing cars and passing pedestrians not much was accomplished.

As soon as afternoon class was over it was time to begin the adventurous journey home. Quick grocery stops were made as well as the 3:00 conference with one of the kid's teachers. Do not turn the radio on! This silence could be the only peaceful time found during the day.

Once home, groceries were unloaded and supper prepared. Afterwards, time was spent helping children with homework. Gotta get it done fast because one of the kids has a 7:00 ball game. If the game didn't start late or go into overtime, arrival time back home could be as early as 9:00. After returning home, it's time for baths, laying out school clothes, prayers and good-night kisses.

Finally, sitting down and taking deep, relaxing breaths the student realized it was time to get cozy with that coffee pot and start homework assignments. No matter how long it would take, it had to be done. Oops! Brain overload! That's all that can be comprehended for today. Now grab a quick shower and reset that innocent alarm clock.





Engaged!

On April 12, 1996 Rex Roland got engaged to Rebecca after she accepted his offer to be her knight in shining armor. They will no doubt live happily forever and after.

Out to Lunch

After many lunches in her car, Lynnette Collins and other commuters organized the *Commuters' Lounge*. Located in the basement of the old Memorial Library, it's a home away from home equipped with a kitchen, sofa, tables and soda machines.



Time Out

Commuters have enjoyed the refuge of the newly appointed *Commuters Lounge*.

Celtic Cross

Jena Marquis is always happy to expose her shoulder with its tattooed celtic design.



Ancient Lores

Every Knight needs a dragon and Jillian is no exception. Her dragon follows her everywhere.



Tattooed Arm Ring

Very cool and high enough to be covered by a sleeve this tattoo is well placed.





Tatoos: Some very permanent

Body Art



his year, tattoos and body piercing seemed to be popping up all over campus. Ears, belly buttons and noses harbored beaded rings and rhinestone studs. Although body piercing was pretty intrusive it was never as permanent as a tattoo. Tattoos were the ultimate commitment! "It's a hard decision to make because it will be there forever. I just thought of something that represented me and I got it," commented senior Bobbi Trotter. Tattoos were everywhere. They were perceived as an expression of one's likes and interests, of the inner self surfacing. Their designs have gone to decorative and celtic, away from the sailor's parlor looks. They were considered to be permanent jewelry etched in the skin. They were colorful or sober, subtle or huge and always done with a needle. Ooch!



Personal Choices

Kendal Rucker wears a simple gothic spellie of his name. A safe choice that is unlikely to go out of style!

Dawn Green pick is an intricate and colorful butterfly. No doubt it was a reflection of her complex and subtle poetry.

The colors of the sun and stars come out ever so nicely on brown skin.

On the Stand

Manda Sappenfield, the victim in this mock trial, gives an emotional and disturbing account of the events.

Mr. Prosecutor

Ben Peacock acts as the victim's prosecutor and gives a convincing performance.



Defense Team

Arleen Daly and Jose Ortega act as the alleged assailant. Jeremy Cochran (right), defense attorneys.





The Truth

The accused, the victim and the witnesses swear to tell only the truth, and the trial begins.

A few events had a taste of

Controversy



For yet another year, Residential Living organized a Mock Rape Trial to provoke some thinking on the issue of date rape. This year trial was very well attended with over 250 people watching the trial unfold. Real life attorneys and judges were consultants to the student actors. Unlike last year, this jury sided with the woman. The crowd of onlookers seemed to agree with the jury's decision. The Mock trial asked difficult questions that examined communication habits, stereotypes, and challenged old habits. Students were pushed to consider their own belief system and decision-making processes. If the outcome is unanimous amongst the jury, it is not as clear amongst the crowd of onlookers.



The Judge

Judge James Baker participates in the mock trial giving his time and wisdom.



Did He Do It?

The alleged assailant, Jeremy Cochran, consistently stated he's own understanding of the situation with his "date."

Class of '97...

The weather was perfect for the college's first outdoor Baccalaureate and Commencement services. Families and friends came to applaud the graduating class of '97. Hugs, smiles, tears, and goodbyes were all a part of the day. Good luck and congratulations seniors! You will be missed.

D'ada Scott-Harison captured everyone's heart with her rendition of the Londonderry air, "He Looked Beyond My Life and Saw My Need." Her performance received a standing ovation.



Gata Josh!

Unruly and expectant, seniors line up in the bleachers. From left to right: Bradley Biddle, Joshua Callahan, James Carney, Danny Cronin III, John Faeth, Laura Barmer, and Heather Banks.





Triumphant entry in the stadium as this senior is eager to pick up his hard won diploma

America Ayala stands still as the ceremony begins



Kenneth Land, Kerwin Lee, Chrtna Little, Leilany Lulay, Amy McClellan and Kendra McFarlane are awaiting the end of the commencement address

Following Shelby Tomlin, James Barber opens the march of the graduates into the stadium. Behind him are Tim Baucom, Heather Brookshire, Nita Capps and two hundred others

... *Rise up*

Paula Dempsey was guiding the litany for the graduates. On stage with her were the trustees, the head of departments, the registrar, the Dean and the President.

Dr. Grainger Caudle, sporting his summer hair cut, breaks up a grin after the ceremony is over.



In true postmodern fashion, Robert Hodgewalked through with a videocamera, capturing this historical moment on film. Officials and the crowd were a bit tickled by the ingenious act.



Andreas Runheim receives a silver bowl in recognition of his outstanding G.P.A.



off to a *Bright*
New Start



Bernard Kynes younger
brother tries on the mortarboard to
see if the hat fits.



College Marshals: (not in
order) Virginia Wilkins, Chief,
Cory Hall, Assistant chief,
Michelle Baker, Mitzi
Fullbright, Kelly Grooms,
Aaron Hawkins, Amanda
Hill, Diane Hutt, Amanda
Luke, Kerrie McNaughton,
Rebekah Mains, Sarah
Simmons, Amy Tipton,
Shelby Tomlin, Jennifer
Wiggins.





Whether for enlightenment, or credit, students sought knowledge in a variety of fields. With different goals, students pursued intellectual, spiritual and personal growth through the study of topics ranging from the classics to object-orientated programming. Freshman struggled with calculus, while seniors soared with organic chemistry. While the continuing technological onslaught forced many to change study and teaching habits, most students still found the best way to get through school was found at 3 am in the company of half a bag of doughnuts and a worn out computer. Seniors hoped that on graduation day, the end would have justified the means and returning students slept easy in the knowledge that there is always next semester to establish their claim to be a little scholarly.

just a little

Scholarly

Academics is more than just lecture halls. Students in horseback riding find the open land to be their classroom.

on line

Almost all majors had classes which required that students spend some time in the computer lab. Senior Josh Callahan said, "Labs were a time to work with materials, catch up on late work, or practice what was learned in class." Lindsay Varnade agreed with Callahan and used the time to review class notes. Others, like senior Tom Walton, felt that some labs were simply too long.

Whether they approved or disapproved of required lab time, students found themselves staring into computer monitors many an afternoon.



Professors rely on computers for accurate, up-to-date grade information. Students can receive grades quickly during conferences.





Many of the courses offered require that students spend some time in the computer lab.

Students find that computers can be quite helpful in locating just the right books and articles for research papers and class projects.



While learning a bit about geography, this student discovers that the computer can be a great friend!

OPPOSITE PAGE: Working together, classmates discover they can learn from each other and accomplish a lot more in the given amount of time.

Astrid Calhoun is hard at work
on her calculator.



Sammy Rease takes advantage
of the library's study room to
finish an economics assignment.



study time

Classes brought their load of homework and every student had to develop a studying method.

Most students worked in their dorm room but often that meant exposing themselves to a lot of friendly traffic.

Another strategy was to hide from friends and from phone in the library. With its spacious hall, the new Renfroe Library seemed to attract many studious visitors. Using lab time and technical support was another good way to get things done. But on nice Spring days, students were inspired by the weather and ended up doing a little cramming.



Amanda Thien fills a reservation form for a group study.



Students walking from the science building often take time to relax on the library wall.

open minds

Science classes took students from the Bunsen burner to the bed of rivers. Scott Pearson's Ecological techniques class was working out in the field. Dr. Allan Smith's Vertebrae Taxonomy class collected specimen with a variety of techniques ranging from seining (using a net) for native fish, to catching salamanders barehanded to banding birds as part of a national survey. Dr. JoAnn Croom's micro biology class took a creative approach to finding bacteria in the environment. students searched for

bacteria in meat (which converted many to vegetarianism) then came up with their own fertile sources for bacteria, such as kitchen sponges (scary!).



Leslie Peterson stirs a special chemical mix.



Dr. Sam Boggess assist a student in chemistry class.





Above, Diane Hutt, biology major, works on an important science project.

Mathilda carefully examines a chemical solution.

Dr. Frank Quick receives the Gibbs award for outstanding teacher during graduation.



Percussion class students Roslyn Reed, Jason Gilchrist, Sherry Fender, and Meina Honeycutt learn from teacher Paul Babelay.

Senior music education majors Jenny Payne and Christopher Reed work in choral orchestration class with teacher Donna Robertson.



The work of art student Jill Hetteen is displayed for the school community. A variety of student artwork was on display throughout the year.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Andy Phillips admires his ceramic fountain just before its firing.



creative work



Students in the division of Fine Arts were busy singing, making music, painting, computerizing and acting. The senior art exhibition showed the work of 10 graduating art majors, the largest graduating art class and the best in terms of quality in recent years. Other art activities included visiting Washington's art galleries, and jewelry making.

The Music department was one of the most happening place on campus with frequent recitals and performances. Mars Hill students performed a lot in small ensemble, through the choir or individually. This year class of graduates will bring another generation of great music teachers to North Carolina schools.



Sean Smith works to perfect his trombone playing as teacher Jim Sparrow listens.

tender care

Allen Shelley, director of the sports medicine program, had his hands full teaching students skills and techniques in caring for injured Mars Hill players. The program was

quite popular with students as they learned how to tape sprained ankles, wrap problem knees, and massage tight muscles. Because of the strong sports program at Mars Hill, sports med students were busy throughout the year from football season to golf. But they didn't

seemed to mind because they enjoyed working with Allen Shelley. "He does more than what is expected of him and he's a great guy," said student Steven Kramp.



Kendall Rucker receives a heat treatment from a sports med student after a practice session.





Whirlpool treatment is a time for relaxation. The whirlpool was often used for treatment of pulled muscles.

SPORTS MEDICINE STUDENTS: Bottom Row: Kat Ayotte, Neely Strange, Kellie McCall, Shelley Bundy, Holly Gruntmann, Jennifer Mitchell, Jennifer Miller, Amy Byrley, Marcie West, Kim Mason, Teresa Mitchell. Back Row: Hiroake Yakame, Michelle Laarents, Kazue Kasahaia, Leslie Cox, Ryan Littlejohn, Steven Kramp, Wes Parker, Michael Hodges, Erik Clark, Joel Moffat, Allen Shelley.



Players like Matthew Richardson keep sports medicine students busy working with injuries during the game.

Knee and ankle wrapping are done often and daily. Students had their wrapping techniques down to a fine art.

reinventing school

Many classes operated in a format that was just a little different, enough to raise expectations a bit in the classroom.

Whether it was a team taught formula or Graphic Design or any number of upperclass English classes, students were constantly bombarded with multiple input.

For example, the communication department kept its sixty odd majors out of a regular classroom by involving them with technology at the new Spoken Communication Lab.

Another way to vary the old formula is to have guest speakers, and Mars Hill abounds in those. Guest speakers bring the outside world into the classroom in a very direct and challenging way.

As part of her internship and at the occasion of the presidential inauguration, Laura LeQuire is getting ready for a little broadcast.

The creative drama class meets in Owen Theater and splits up in teams. Jennifer Wyman, Frida Morgan and Rebekkah Mains, all Juniors in Elementary Ed., are working on their play.



Kathy Meacham brought Svlac bSvrasti, Noble Peace prize nominee, to give a public lecture as part of EST

In the public speaking class, communication majors Melanie McKinney, Jess McMullen and Teresa Isreal discuss the next presentation.





Terjo Munnich visits the
Women and Religion class
This class received no less
than 14 guests this Spring

Excerpts from Adrienne Rich's
Diving into the Wreck

I go down.
My flippers cripple me,
I crawl like an insect down the ladder
and there is no one
to tell me when the ocean
will begin.

(...)

We are, I am, you are
by cowardice or courage
the one to find our way
back to this scene
carrying a knife, a camera,
a book of myths
in which
our names do not appear.

Laura Collins presents in
dance her research on
women in music.

Professor Kathy Meacham
discusses class notes with
student Sarah Durner.



self defined

Although Mars Hill College has no formal Women Studies program, several students requested Women's Studies

classes and got them. Dr. Betty Powell, offered a Women Writers class in the 1996 spring, Dr. Kathy Meacham taught Women and Religion, and Dr. Phyllis Smith

taught Women in History, both in the spring of '97. Although these classes began with a hesitancy toward feminist philosophies, they quickly

generated lively and insightful discussions and developed into open forums that invited people from across the campus. Why are Women

Studies classes so popular, so different? Perhaps it is because the content of those classes touches on such issues as womens' self-defining process

and women learning to trust themselves. For whatever the reason the students' response to Women's Studies classes was positive.



-The experience of finding strenght inside of women who never thought they could find it within themselves.

Rebecca Stutts

-I took this class to fulfill my religion minor requirement but it has been so much more than a class. I have never gotten so much out of a class and never have I seen a group of students be so much like a family.

Amy Parker

-I am connected to the students and faculty in this class. We leave our pre-conceived notions of each other at the door and we come to listen. I have gotten to know beautiful women who have shared their stories of pain and triumph. Searching through my own history I have found a strong voice. The voice of the Women Studies' students will stay with me and teach me throughout my life.

Ramona Janson

stretching boundaries

Rich Charlton is impassioned about improving the situation of African-American on campus, and rightly so. He feels that black students are without role models because of the lack of African-American mentors on the faculty or staff. "I come from Brooklyn. I know the streets and I came here to educate myself. I am travelling through the color line and through social classes to be at Mars Hill, but when I get here nobody understands me. There is no one I can identify with". He feels that Mars Hill College should hire at least two African-American teachers in crucial areas such as English and history, to provide an anchor to the African-

American students. He would like to find more emotional and social support for who he is and would like to be a part of a vibrant black community (even if it is a small one). He wants to enrich his "mind" as he puts it. Richard wants more than a sense of belonging to Mars Hill. He wants to be educated as a black man. "To me, the goal of education is to prepare us for the world out there. We (African-Americans) need to be realistically prepared for a world that is essentially racist, where a black man is not equal to a white man. Denying it helps no one." Rich has seen too many of his school mates fall through the cracks. "They graduated without ever acquiring real life skills that could make a difference in *their life*, and because they don't fit anywhere they just go back to where they came from. College should offer us better than that".

The request to address African-American issues on campus comes from others in the black community as well. In response, Dr. Betty Powell taught a class in African-American literature this spring. Additionally, a committee for African-American Concerns,

chaired by Dr. Tracy Campbell, has been appointed, and a black woman, Ms. Charity Ray, is now part of the education department faculty. Thanks to the efforts of Rich Charlton, Tony High, and many others, MHC is changing. There is hope that one day a majority of African-American students will be at home here and will graduate feeling empowered and ready to face the world. You are keeping us on our toes, Rich.

-Annemarie Lesage, Art teacher and yearbook adviser

Rich Charlton's friends support his endeavors for a more focused look at African American courses and teachers.





who's who

“In my more than twenty-five years of college teaching, I have known only four or five students with Andreas’ abilities.” said Dr. Jo Ann Croom. With a double major in biology and chemistry, Andreas spent lots of time in labs and still attained a perfect 4.0 GPA. His sense of humor and his Swedish accent made him a delightful presence on campus. He was accepted in Bowman Gray Medical School for the fall.

A native of Yugoslavia with an extraordinary command of the English language, Dragan selected English as his major and his 4.0 GPA indicates great success (especially since he carried 160 credit hours!). He was accepted in the professional writing program at Northeastern University in Boston for the fall. He hopes to become a newspaper or magazine editor.

Mars Hill's Top Five Academic Students



Andreas Runheim



Dragan Djukic

Majoring in psychology and minoring in business didn't stop LeAnn from earning an outstanding 4.0 GPA. Her advisor and mentor Dr. Walter Stroud said, "LeAnn takes a proactive role in all she undertakes and works hard to insure a successful outcome." Recognizing her own blessings, her dream is to help others and make a difference in people's lives.



LeAnn Griffin

With an impressive 3.98 and a knack for teaching, Jennifer assisted in teaching Calculus II math labs. Dr. Donald Russell said, "I could just turn the lab over to her because she could answer all of the questions." Jennifer is pursuing her strong interest in mathematics in graduate work at NC State University and plans to remain open to teaching possibilities.



Jennifer Black

Hoping to work in an inner city setting with at risk kids, Amanda worked as a volunteer and tutor at area elementary schools, and in Atlanta and D.C. to gain some hands-on experience. An English Ed major with a 3.96 GPA, Amanda was active in several honor societies on campus and was known as one who got things going.



Amanda Frazier





Pictures are deceiving, especially those in the people section of a yearbook. They are nothing more than rows and rows of smiling faces with the same pose, holding the same expression. It's not the actual pictures in the Laurel that make someone smile, or laugh, or cry. It's what's behind the poses. The feelings, the memories that make them each a little different. The faces on the following pages are small reminders of the life behind the pose. They are glimpses of the personalities of the students, the faculty, and the staff of Mars Hill College. They are reflections of what gave Mars Hill College just a little personality.

Baily Mountain
Cloggers
always try to
add personality
to their
performances.

just a little

Personality

Marcus Adeyemi
Erika Ammons
Jennifer Anderson
Brandon Anderson
Bobby Anglin
Sergio Arenas



Olu Baker
Amanda Ball
Tory Bell
Angela Barkley
Melanie Barnett
Resa Barnwell



Erika Baylis
Tammy Behr
Lesley Benzel
Jamie Binde
Leslie Boone
Brandon Boyd



Rexann Bradburn
Dennis Brank
Amy Brock
Allen Buchanan
Nathan Caparolie
Misty Capps

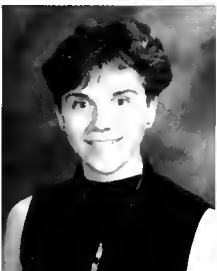


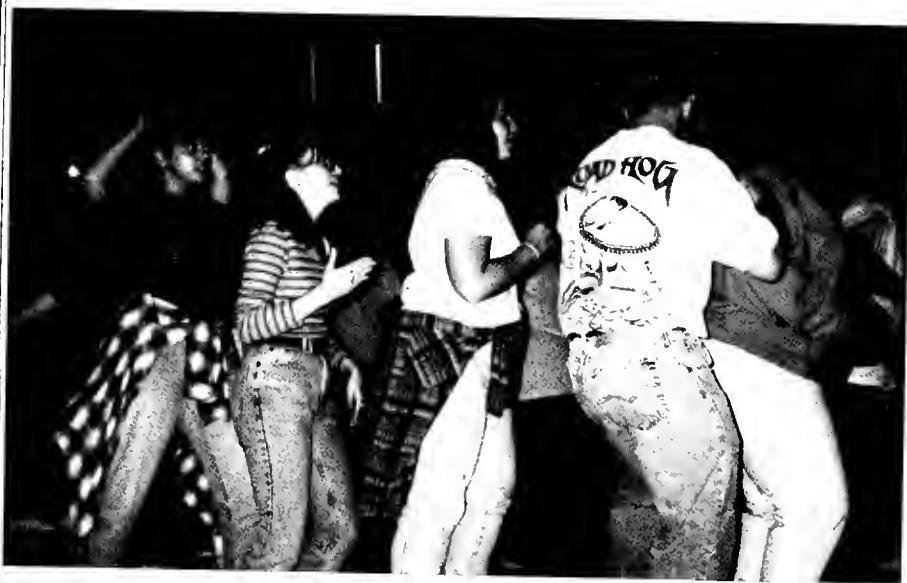
Richard Carlyle
Laura Carroll
Kelly Castronover
Ginny Chastain
Adrian Clark
Jeremy Cochran



Phillip Cole
Timothy Collier
Justin Combs
Adrian Cooper
Evelyn Craig
Michael Crowder









Amy DeHart
Michelle Deese
Josh Daniel
Jessa Decker
Ronnie Cutshall
Mistie Cunningham



Jennifer Doby
Kelly Drager
Chad Dula
S. Durner
Raymond Elder
Caroline Emanuel



Jennifer Flint
Jonathon Fox
Carlos Francisco
Jennifer Freeze
Shina Fukri
Christopher Fuller



Kevin Galloway
John Gentry
Meraldo Gonzales
Brandy Gray
Abigail Green
Misty Green



Jennifer Greenwood
Vincent Gregory
Michael Grove
Michael Gutierrez
Michelle Gwaltney
Megan Harris

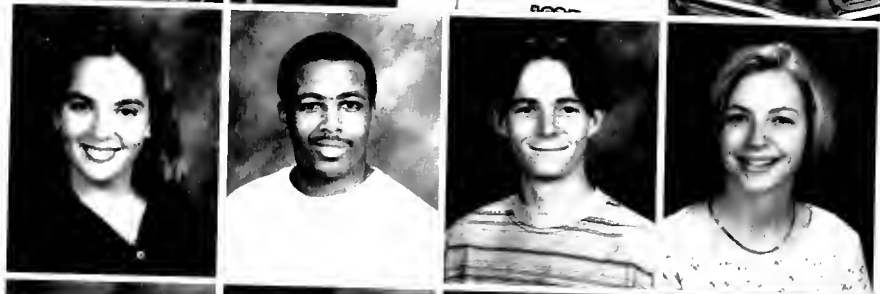


Carrie Hartman
Brandy Harwell
Keith Hatcher
Anita Helderman
Sabrina Henderson
Jennifer Hendrix

Philip Heppding
 Kelli Herndon
 Michael Hinsey
 Teva Hite
 Courtney Hoffmeyer
 Michael Holton



Jamie Howard
 Bobby Hunt
 Eric Jaeger
 Cristen Jenkins
 Luke Johnson
 Jason Jones



Kennetha Jones
 Shannon Jones
 Jeremy Jordon
 Kristy Judkins
 Sandra Kelley
 Mayu Kikuchi



Gypsie Kimbrough
 Courtney Knapton
 Holly Knight
 Katherine Lipsey
 Kelli Mathews
 Gregory Matthews

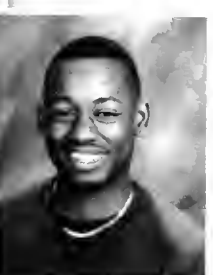


David McDaniel
 Melanie McKinney
 Sarah McLain
 Grant Michel
 Melanie Mintz
 Maurice Myers



Adam Nelson
 Andrew Novack
 Asuka Ogawa
 Jose Ortega
 Dalila Perez
 David Pond









Jeremy Pressley
Christie Ramsey
Llainie Ranzer
Rebecca Ravish
Jill Raye
Jen Reves



Tonya Roberts
Helen Redd
Jason Reynolds
Takeyla Richards
Ryan Risk
Tennyson Rucker



Ryan Rector
Amanda Robinson
Robin Ruff
Kellie Ramsey
Carrie Sallee
Kelly Sampson



Cortni Scott
Christy Shelton
Nichole Silver
Kumiko Simokado
Michael Shore
Amy Silver



Tammy Simpson
Cedric Smith
David Smith
Michael Smith
Michelle Smith
Shelby Sorrels



Jennifer Stevens
Eric Tate
Amanda Thien
Corey Thomas
Dewayne Thomas
Felishia Tonkin

Emily Van Dyke
 Lindsay Varnadoe
 Neil Wagner
 Mark Ward
 Wendy Ward
 Johnathan Ware

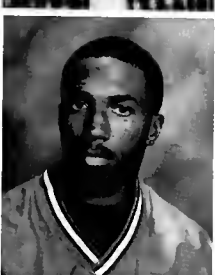
**PHOTO
 NOT
 AVAILABLE**



Andrew Washburn
 Hallie West
 Jill Wilkerson
 Gregory Weigel
 Matthew Whitson
 Tara Williams

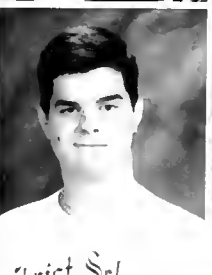
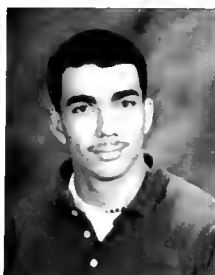
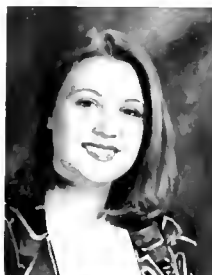


Toy Williams
 Albert Witcher
 William James
 Edwin Zapata
 Nikki Brown
 Brian Bailey



Joshua Hartwig
 Godfrey Jean
 Ryan Montague
 Kristen Emeola





Junior Sel.



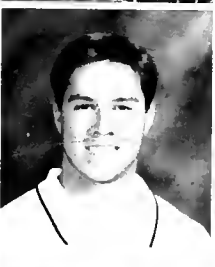




Brian Alexander
Brock Bailey
Michelle Baker
Nathan Baker
Stacy Barley
Robin Bates



Deanna Bentley
Michelle Berkley
Deidre Blair
Sara Bouckis
Ronnie Bowen
Andrew Brown



Mandi Buchanan
Susannah Carver
Richard Charlton
Kahlil Cheeks
Scott Chestnut
Chris Collins



Jamey Cook
Lisa Couch
Zach Craig
Jamie Davidson
Kimberly Fender
Samantha Francoeur



Walt Fletcher
Marty Gilbert
Nichole Gilstrap
Melsia Greene
Kevin Griffin
K. Grooms

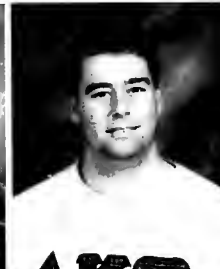


Crystal Gunter
Matthew Hanrahan
Mike Hanrahan
Clay Hardin
Aaron Hawkins
Jennifer Hattaway

Deann Hawkins
 Carla Helton
 Tommy Hornick
 Ben Hoecherl
 Danna Hughes
 Miena Huneycutt



Alvis James
 Joseph Jenkins
 Brandon Jones
 Judd Jones
 Ryan Justus
 Benji Keisler



Troy Killian
 Sho Koneto
 Carol Layne
 Aimee Leenhouts
 Nick Lindsey
 Mandy Luke



Chris Makins
 Steve Marshall
 Cindy Maxwell
 Lori Mayo
 Amanda Metcalf
 Christon Milligan

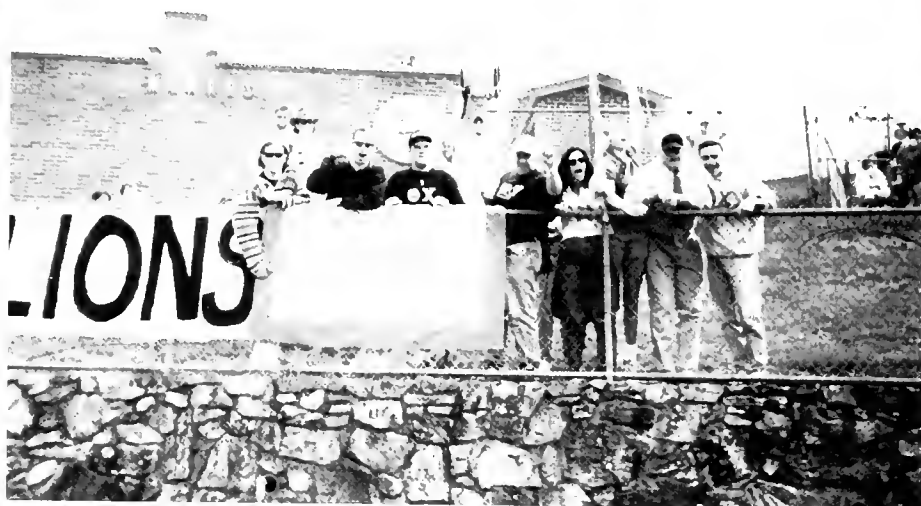


Jennifer Mitchell
 Eduardo Moreno
 Mandi Morgan
 Craig Morrison
 Stephen Myers
 Nakia Brown



Ashley Norton
 Gail Norton
 Austin Piel
 Jennifer Pillsbury
 Pat Piscitelli
 Candi Pittillo





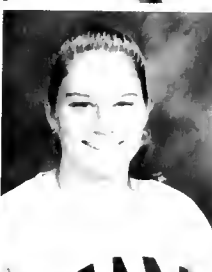




Jessica Powell
Shannon Powell
Amanda Pressley
David Privette
Kristy Pyatte
Jennifer Ramb



Cindy Ray
Samuel Reaves
Phillip Redding
Adam Reed
Kerry Reed
Roslyn Reed



Linda Remillard
Cheryl Renfro
Monica Rice
Monica Robinson
Kari Russell
Natasha Sanders



Veronica Sapek
Amanda Sappenfield
Rob Schlegel
Michael Scrip
Mysti Shuford
Chad Sigler



Megan Sosbee
Johnny Spillman
Amanda Starcher
Cory Stanley
Tom Thorp
Amy Tipton



Adam Turem
Carlos Urrutia
Tracy Vance
Melissa Ward
Matthias Weckesser
Elizabeth Webb

Jennifer Wiggins
 Tyrone Williams
 Renee Wyatt
 Mayumi Yamada
 James Yanulavich
 Dave Young









Clarissa Barin
Vicky Barnwell
Lanese Belschner
Stephen Bias
Melissa Blair
Craig Bost



Shelly Bundy
Ryan Clerico
Laura Collins
Lynette Collins
Forrest Connor
Jodie Conrad



Kristopher Dotson
Christine DuBois
Nicole Eller
Chester Ervin
James Eudy
Kelly Evans



Greta Fedock
Rebecca Ford
Mitzi Fulbright
Danny Fusco
Dawn Gillespie
Cory Hall



Missy Harris
Jennifer Head
Jennifer Halsall
Amanda Hardin
Tommy Hensley
Amanda Hill



Heather Hughes
Kasey Jarrett
Angela King
Allen Laws
Latonya Lindsey
Daphne Lisenbee

Tricia Littlefield
 Kerri McNaughton
 Erin Miller
 Freda Morgan
 Dan Mullinix
 Jill Nelson



Deanna Nycek
 Callie O'Berry
 Brian O'Donnell
 Janey Ollis
 Stacie Padgett
 Kristie Parker



Jay Perdue
 Tammy Phillips
 Darren Ponder
 Allison Price
 Brandy Rogers
 Steve Rouse



Jason Saylor
 Matt Schaller
 Alison Shannonhouse
 Mike Shea
 Sarah Simmons
 Amy Slusher



Amy Small
 Patrick Spence
 Neely Strange
 Steve Sullivan
 Melissa Todd
 Shelby Wilder



Elizabeth Wyman
 Jen Wyman
 Mary Lou Yelton





America Ayala
Cathy Baker
Laura Barmer
Tim Baucom



Casia Belk
Jaime Beltran
Nathan Bennett
Jennifer Black



Jane Bradsher
Laura Boisvert
Brian Boyd
Kelly Brower



Suzanne Brown
Joshua Callahan
James Carney
Amy Carter









Julie Carter
Kimberly Chestnut
Holden Clodfelter
Tamara Crain



Timothy Dare
Heather Davis
Jennifer Davis
Whitney Davis



Dragan Djukic
Christopher Eckstadt
Ashley Edwards
Rebecca Edwards



Robin Ellis
Kathy Ennis
Krista Faeth
John Faeth

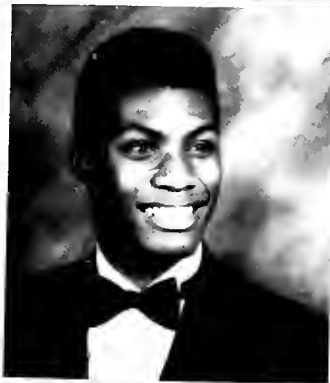
T.J. Farmer
Sherry Fender
Amy Ferguson
Amy Fowler



Christopher Fox
Don Francis
Amanda Frazier
Lee Gary

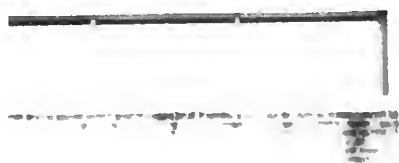
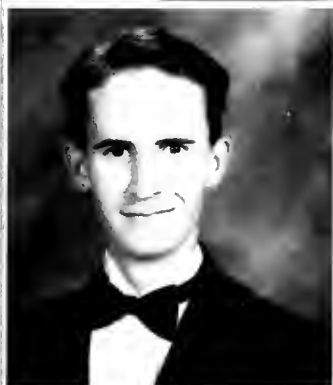


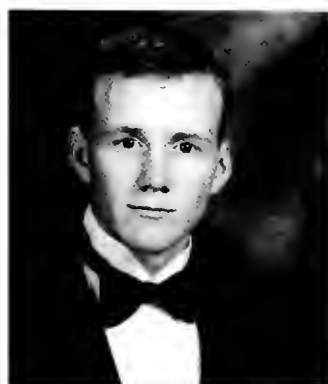
Kristofer Geddie
Paul Gosling
Robert Gouge
Sharleas Graber



Holly Gruntman
James Hall
Lauren Harrii
Amy Harris





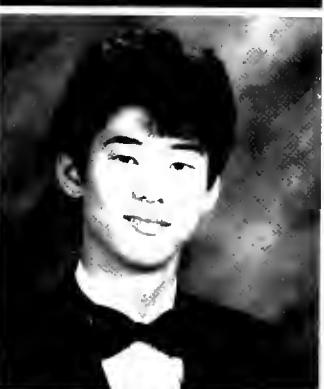




Christian Heppding
Emile Henderson
Laurie Henderson
Bob Hensley



Ashley Hilliard
Robert Hodge
Brittany Howard
Wimberly Hubert



Joy Hudson
Diane Hutt
Akira Ito
Jenay Keaton



Brandy Kelly
Christina Kelley
Steven Kramp
Jennyfer Krech

Kenneth Land
Eric Lang
Howell Ledford
Lara LeQuire



Brandy Liddy
Tara Lindsay
Tiffany Linebaugh
Christy Little



Leilani Lulay
Brian Matlock
Adrienne McAllister
Amy McClellan



Miriam McKinney
Sandra McLeod
Jonathan Melton
Sandra Messer

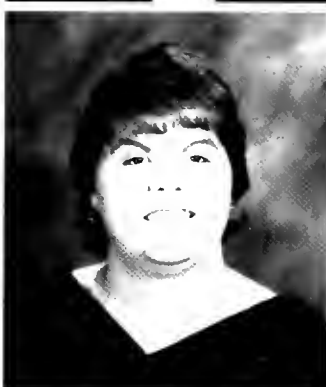








Bradley Minter
Steven Moore
Holly Myers
Richard Myers



Cherie Nelson
Patrick Nelson
Deanna Nycek
Jenny Payne



Ben Peacock
Andy Phillips
Mathew Piazza
Elizabeth Pippin



Lorelle Post
Mathew Queen
Debra Ramsey
LaTonya Ray

Keith Reagan
Christopher Reed
Samantha Rhodes
Robin Rhyne
Jeff Rice



Kristie Ring
Anna Roberts
Rex Roland
Yanick Ruiz
Andreas Runheim

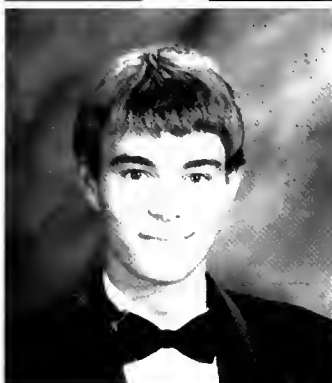


John Schoonmaker
Janet Shelton
Takanori Shinoda
Angela Sluder
Brandon Smith



Sean Smith
Virginia Sparks
Stephanie Maney
Walter Summerlin
Hideko Sugimoto

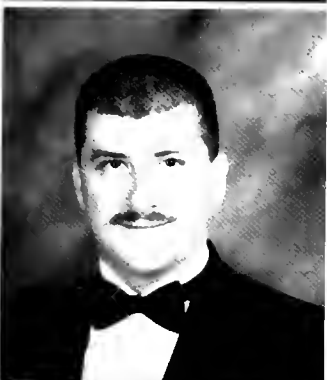








Angela Tabor
John Thompson
Kevin Tipton
Bobbi Kay Trotter
Kim Turner



Susan Vaught
Kim Waddell
Robert Walker
Thomas Walton
Tikisha Walwyn



Holland Ward
Kako Yajima
Andrea Wright
Jennifer Wortham
Daniel Woodard



Amy Wilson
Carrie Westall
Chanda West
Sayaka Watanabe

Mr. Joe Blair, *Business*
 Dr. Sam Boggess, *Biology*
 Mrs. Carol Boggess, *English*
 Ms. Merry Burgess-Boyd,
VP Student Development
 Dr. Tracey Campbell, *History*



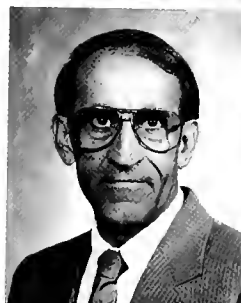
Dr. Barbara Cary, *Education*
 Dr. Rick Cary, *Fine Arts*
 Mr. Mike Belcher, *Business Office*
 Dr. Grainger Caudle, *Business*
 Mr. Tim Clifton, *Head Football Coach*



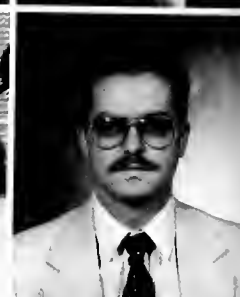
Dr. Tom Coates, *Physical Education*
 Mrs. Robin Cole, *Student Development*
 Dr. Jon Crawford, *History*
 Dr. Jo Ann Croom, *Biology*
 Rev. Paula Dempsey, *Chaplain*



Mr. Richard Dillingham, *Director*
Southern Applachian Center
 Dr. Roland Doepner, *Education*
 Mrs. Helen Dowling, *Alumni Relations*
 Mrs. Lura Edsall, *Physical Education*
 Dr. Julie Fortney, *Music*



Mrs. Peggy Gardner, *Media Relations*
 Ms. Shelley Galvin, *Psychology*
 Mr. Craig Goforth, *Campus Police*
 Dr. Douglas Gordon, *Music*
 Dr. Jack Grose, *Business*









Mr. Richard Hinshaw, *Admissions*
 Ms. Sarah Hensley, *Mathematics*
 Dr. John Hough, *Education*
 Dr. Weihu Hong, *Mathematics*
 Mr. Ed Hoffmeyer, *Athletics*



Dr. William Hutt, *Biology*
 Mr. Harry Hughs, *Mathematics*
 Mr. David Johnson, *Tennis Coach*
 Dr. Ellison Jenkins, *Religion*
 Ms. Teresa Israel, *CEP*



Ms. Amy Justice, *Residential Living*
 Mr. C. Robert Jones, *Theatre*
 Dr. Richard Knapp, *Foreign Language*
 Dr. Susan Kiser, *Mathematics*
 Dr. Noel Kinnamon, *English*



Dr. Robert Kramer, *Foreign Languages*
 Dr. David Knisley, *Humanities*
 Mr. Clyde Lawrence, *Business*
 Mrs. Carolyn Lamberson, *Music*
 Mrs. Rebecca Kruk, *Fashion*



Dr. Leroy J. Lenburg, *History*
 Dr. C. Earl Leininger, *Dean and VP Academic Affairs*
 Dr. Harold McDonald, *English*
 Dr. Ken Manske, *Chemistry*
 Ms. Annemarie Lesage, *Fine Arts*

Ms. Sam McKee, *Grant Administration*
 Dr. Kathy Meacham, *Philosophy*
 Dr. Liz Michel, *Communication*
 Dr. Robert Melvin, *Religion*
 Dr. Carolyn Nave, *Education*
 Ms. Bobbie Nicholson, *Business*



Ms. Julia Nooe, *Social Work*
 Mr. John Oertling, *Theatre*
 Mr. Mike Owens, *Cross-Country Coach*
 Mr. John Payne, *Dean of Learning Resources*
 Dr. George Peery, *Political Science*
 Dr. Barbara Pendelton, *Business*



Ms. Jane Potter, *Music*
 Dr. Frank Quick, *Biology*
 Dr. Joel Reed, *Music*
 Mr. David Riggins, *Basketball Coach*
 Mrs. Donna Robertson, *Music*
 Mrs. Brenda Russell, *Fashion*



Dr. Don Russell, *Mathematics*
 Mrs. Cherry Saenger, *Social Work*
 Mrs. Gail Sawyer, *Sociology*
 Dr. Thomas Sawyer, *Religion*
 Mrs. Melissa Stanz, *Media Relations*



Dr. Larry Stern, *Political Science*
 Dr. Teresa Stern, *Education*
 Dr. Walter Stroud, *Psychology*
 Mr. James Thomas, *Theatre*
 Ms. Meg Turner, *Upward Bound Program*





Inaugural Celebration

"This is a significant time in the college's history, a time of transition, and I am deeply grateful to all who have come before me. I've also been impressed by so many creative people, people who have vision...and I'm especially grateful for the spiritual support of all the faculty and staff."

Dr. Max Lennon
excerpt from the
inaugural address

Lennon is fourth college president in over 100 years

Approximately 2-300 students, in varying ways, helped to make the fourth inauguration in 100 years a huge success. "Students' involvement was critical. The event could not have happened without them," said Dr. Jim Lenburg. As student link to the inauguration steering committee Amanda Frazier worked endlessly. Campus minister Paula Dempsey made great efforts to involve as many different groups as possible. The Art Club, the cloggers, college choir, and marching and jazz bands all contributed to the event's success. Bonners drove shuttle buses to and from parking lots for the guests. Grayson, Marshbanks-Anderson, and Church Leadership Scholars served at the Presidential Luncheon. And the list goes on.

Nearly every campus organization was involved in some way. Even the football team members participated by assisting Craig Goforth with security and traffic flow. Player Jamie Eudy said, "The football team was proud to help things run smoothly in this historic event. Just being asked was special."

-Excerpts from an article by Brian Matlock



In The Spirit

Dr. and Mrs. Lennon
enjoy the homecoming
game.





Presidential Moment

Paula Dempsey, Campus Minister, President Bentley, and members of the founding families applaud President Lennon as he receives the Mars Hill College Seal.



Here's the Cake

Dr. and Mrs. Lennon lavish the inaugural guests with cake.

President Emeritus

UNC-A Chancellor Patsy Reed talks with President Emeritus Fred Bentley



Ramona Janson

At 21, a Junior, Ramona is moving, learning, living fast and intensely. Art is her life, be it music, poetry or visual art. She says, "Experience emotions to the fullest. Create when you're happy and use the pain of depression to create also. *Creating art is like using life.* Use the influence of an emotion, of book, of an artist or of an experience. Open your eyes and take notice of every shadow, of every angle of objects and situations alike. Take pleasure in your own mind, have a spiritual party, an awakening." This theme of awakening runs through Ramona's conversation. College is a series of awakenings where she is learning to appreciate the complexity and subtlety of life's expression. She has strong opinions that are respectful of differences.

Beside being involved with the Art Club, the Cadenza, the Radio Station, and Sigma Tau Delta, she works as a waitress (money, or the lack of, keeps her running). Next fall she will be in Netherlands as an exchange student. It is a miracle that she manages to get everything done and on time. It might have something to do with the example set by her mom, a single mother, a violinist and teacher, and above all an inspired survivor. Other guiding lights are her teachers Kathy Meacham, Carol Boggess, Betty Powell and Annemarie Lesage. "It's exciting to be a part of the changes occurring on campus, the women studies, the pageant protest, a greater visibility of the arts." Ramona will no doubt be remembered as an activist, just a little rebellious. *GRRRL!*

Michael Shea

Imagine taking a full load of classes on a double major and being involved in eight campus organizations. Sounds like a pretty average college student, doesn't it? Now, add in something just a little different. How about three kids, a wife and an extra ten years. Instead of an average college student, the image is one of Junior Michael Shea.

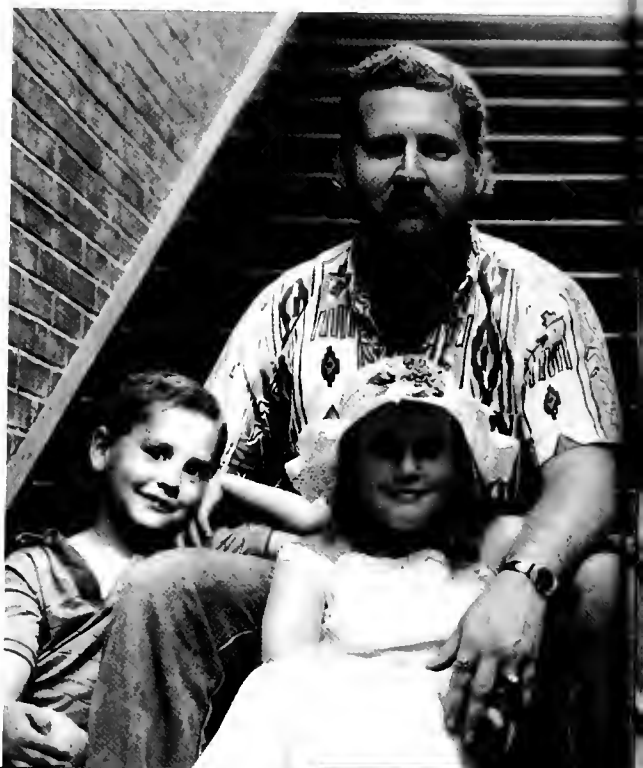
After graduating from high school in 1981, Shea did a variety of different things. He worked construction, was a marine until an accident forced him to leave the Corps, then worked for the US Post Office long enough to realize that there was no way to move up without a degree. This realization brought him his "calling".

Beside his double major in Religion and Psychology, he is a Bonner scholar and the prosecutor for the student government. He is a member of the student admission committee, Logothia, and works with Freshmen at Gateway each Fall. That's all.

"Stick with college. Don't give up on it or yourself because after you get past school, it gets really hard. Reality slaps you in the face and if your not prepared, it's that much harder, and it's a long road back" is his advise to students.

Shea attributes much of his success to his wife Sarah. "She amazes me. She can balance the kids, me, and everything we do as a family." In December Sarah returned to school as well.

He hopes to be remembered by the students and faculty as always being helpful and caring. "I hope to bring insight to a younger generation and help them with decisions about staying or leaving college. Most of all I want to be remembered as a doer not a say-er."



Special Students

three warm, hard working students whose vision and qualities of the heart make them just a little different, just a little special.

Bradley Biddle

"Hut, 2-3..." Even whenever thought he would be on the football team for four years. Bradley, 22, a senior, is an easy going, very understanding person. He loves to have a good time (and that's an understatement). His best experience is also his best advice to other students: "Take full advantage of the college's social activities; the greeks, the Loft. Stay on campus over the weekends." Theta Chi has been a big part of his life at Mars Hill; the brotherhood he found there is very real, sometimes very loud but always fun.

He is graduating with a B.A. in Communications / Public Relations and hoping to get into sports communications. One of the determining experiences of his life was going off to boarding school at 14 years old. "Glad I did it. The education I got was invaluable." It probably taught him a thing or two about the value of friendship too.

As he is leaving college, Bradley feels that Mars Hill is moving in the right direction. "Before getting rid of anything, they should make sure that changes are made for one hundred percent of students, not just the top twenty five." Bradley will never be remembered as an elitist, but probably as a good guy who's always ready to laugh and have a good time. For real.



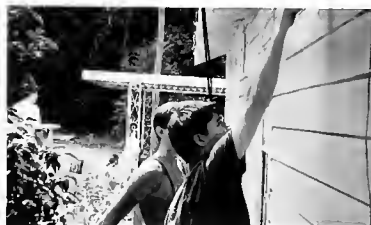
Bradley kneels in front of his Theta Chi brothers, Holden Clodfelter, John Feath, Brian Johnson and Brad Minter.

Number 87, Bradley Biddle is graduating with the class of '97.

RYDER

RYDER





just a little involved? With over 40 different organizations on campus, students had a chance to be more than just a little involved.

They had a chance to help others. They had a chance to travel, to work, to play, but most

importantly to have fun. The Art Club hosted its annual Beaux Arts Ball. The Greeks

participated in Homecoming, and the Greek Olympics. A club started for Non-Traditional

Students. The International Club helped American students learn about other cultures.

Whether for fun, fellowship, growth, or peer pressure, students knew the best way to

make the most of their college years was to get just a little involved.

just a little

Involved

The band gets involved in "Hot, Hot, Hot" during halftime at the first football game.

Sororities

Work, Service, & Party



GOOD FRIENDS

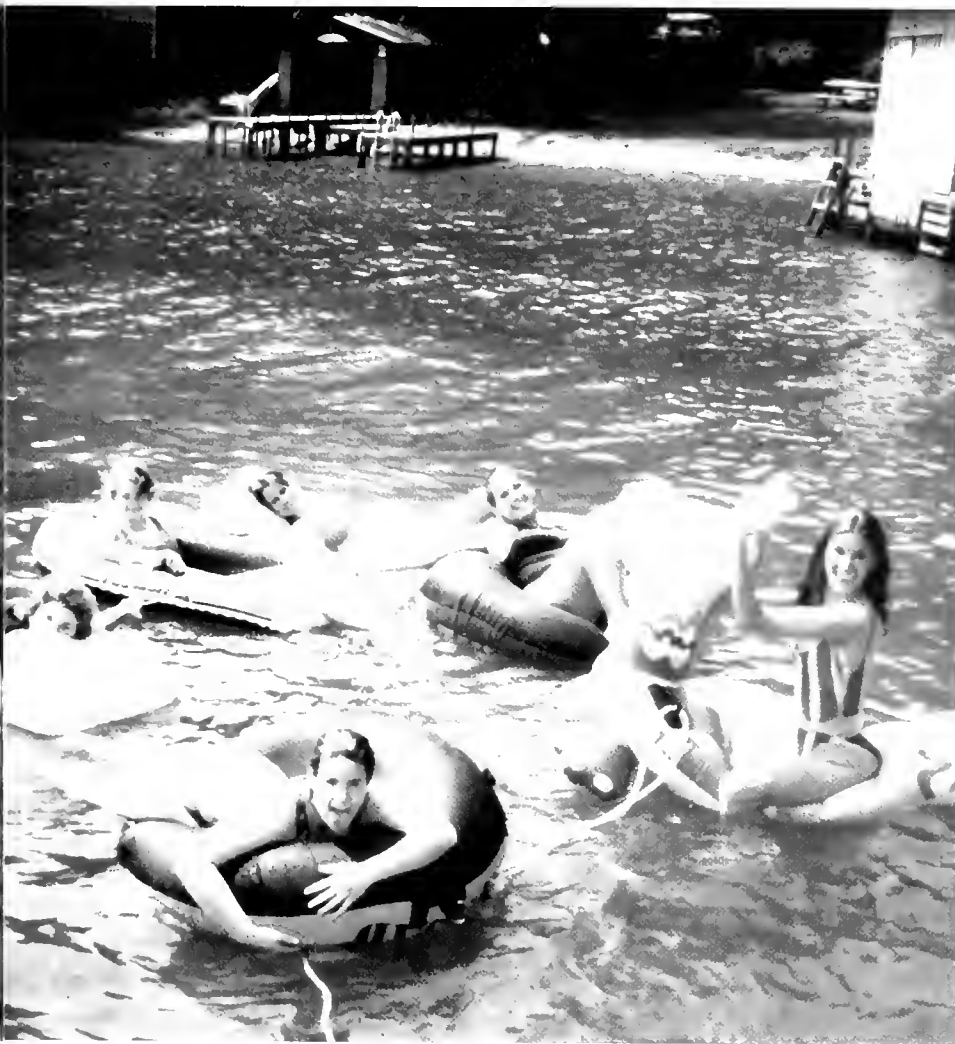
Christon Milligan, Amanda Robinson, Megan Sosebee, Michalyn Traywick, Shelby Sorrells, and Megan Roland, Delta Zeta sisters, know what it means to form strong bonds of friendship.



DELTA ZETA SORORITY: Bottom Row- Misty Green, Jodie Conard, Mysti Shuford, Casia Belk, Tara Short, Jamie McGuire, Amanda Robinson, Christon Milligan, DeAnn Hawkins. Second Row- Robin Cole, Kathy Ennis, Michalyn Traywick, Jennifer Wiggins, Rosie Dyer, Teresa Mitchell, Allison Price, Jennifer Gilbert, Jennifer Hendrix, Tracy Vance, Kelly Draper. Back Row- Amanda Pressley, Shelby Sorrells, Tiffany Stork, Megan Roland, Nichole Gilstrap, Laurie Henderson, Monica Rice, Christy Toncray, Mandy Luke, Ginger Wilkins, Megan Sosebee.



IOTA CHI ALPHA: Bottom Row- Ellisa Martin, Julie Beddingfield, Cheryl Renfro, Shauna Rhoton. Second Row- Laura Barner, Jennifer Black, Jennifer Head, Jenn Wortham. Third Row- Holly Myers, Holly Gruntman, Renee Wyatt, Jessica Powell, Kristy Judkins, Vanessa Brigman. Back Row- Rebekah Mains, Amy Almquist, Candi Pattillo, Courtney Weiland, Tricia Littlefield, Donna Hughes. Not Pictured: Jo Dee Childers, Dr. Teresa Stern-Advisor.



GAMMA GIRLS

The Gamma sisters enjoy a day relaxing in the sun. The group's activities included community service, dances, and tailgate parties.

SIGMA TIMES

Enjoying time during homecoming weekend are Sigma sisters Lanese Belschner, Melissa Ward, Melissa Blair, Carol Layne, Jamey Cook, Cindy Ray, and Krista Faeth.



GAMMA ALPHA CHI: Bottom Row-Cindy Ray, Krista Faeth. Second Row-Lanese Belschner, Carol Layne, Tammy Phillips, Jennifer Holsdal, Jennifer Wyman, Melissa Blair. Third Row-Jamey Cook, Astrid Calhoun.



GAMMA CHI EPSILON: Alison Shannhouse, Jen Kiech, Beth Wyman, Sarah Simmons, Whitney Davis, Julie Carter, LaTonya Ray, Christine Kelly.

EL CHAPALA

Theta chi Brothers enjoyed a Mexican meal to celebrate Fall break. Ole!

GREEK GOD

John Faeth, one of Theta Chi's President, is showing off his gladiator outfit at last year (S'96) Greek Gods contest



Swimsuit competition was part of the greek gods contest '97.



DELTA KAPPA THETA: Bottom Row-Ryan Clerico, President; Second row: Steve Rouse, VP, Jonathan Brandon, Marty Gilbert, chaplain, Jay Perdue, Parliamentarian; Third row: Tony Thompson, Steve Sullivan, Brian Matlock, Patrick Spence, Greg Ponder, treasurer, Tim Dare, secretary, Andy Phillips, pledge master, Judd Jones.



Fraternities

Party, Service, & Party



THE NEW CROP

Ryan Habich, Greg Wergel, Mike Gutierrez, Jason Reynolds, Adam Nelson and Keith Hatcher have joined the ranks of Theta Chi this Spring.



THETA CHI: an informal but representative picture of Brad Minter, T.J. Farmer (not a member of Theta Chi), Greg Melikian, Matt Piazza, Tim Baker and John Faeth.



ZETA CHI THETA float for homecoming parade.

Involved

International Honors and Local Politics

GLUEGUNPOWER

Jennifer Wiggins, Amanda Pressley, Monica Rice and a friend help the SGA with decorations.



CMENC (Collegiate Music Educators National Conference) : O'Nicholas Lindsey, Halley West, Miena Honeycutt, Jason Jones, Kelly Payne, Melanie Real, Jason Gilchrist, Kim Martin. There are 33 members to the Mars Hill Chapter of CMENC. The adviser is Denise Schmidt. Ms. Schmidt is also the adviser for the music honor sorority: Delta Omicron.



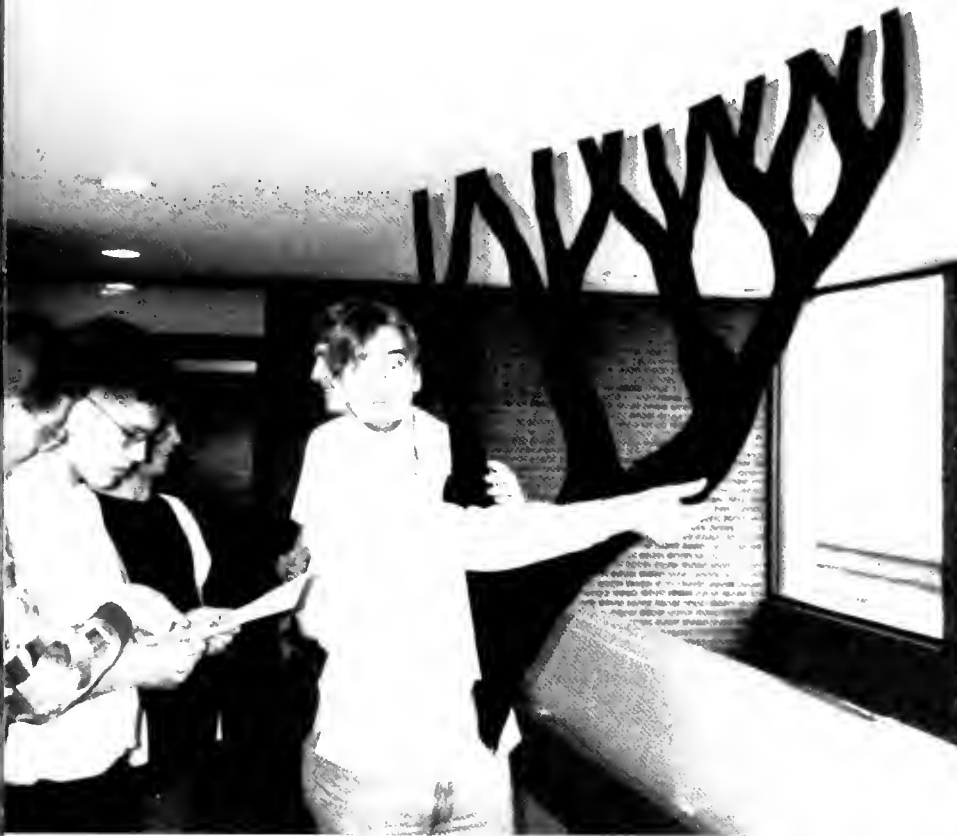
CMENC II: Angela Green, Jamie Davidson, Brandy Gray, Howell Ledford, Kandi Mace, Andy Washburn, Jodie Hickey, Jennifer Paul, president. All the members of CMENC are also members of the music honor sorority or fraternity. Danny Schmidt is the adviser for the newly revamped fraternity Phi Mu Alpha, which will join the ranks of official organization next fall.

SPRING FORMAL PROPS

Walter Fletcher, Nathan Bennett, Daniel Mullinax, Shannon Powell and other SGA members are busy putting the Spring Formal props together.

LENDING A HAND

Sarah Simmons, Hilltop editor and SGA member, helps out with the decoration for the Spring Formal.



SIGMA TAU DELTA: English Honor Society. Bottom Row: Dr. Jim Hood, Ramona Janson, next row: Dr. Carol Boggess, Sarah Ramirez, Diana Hall, Amanda Frazier and Dragan Djukic. Missing from this picture: Laura Collins, Christine DuBois, Nicole Eller, Greta Fedock, Luke Hargus, Jill Hetten, Nicole Kaufman, Jennifer Murphy, Randy Platt, Sarah Simmons, Shelby Tomlin, Virginia Bower, Dr. Noel Kinnamon, Dr. Hal McDonald, Dr. Betty Powell, Dr. Pat Verhulst.



INTERNATIONAL CLUB Front row: Sayaka Watanabe, Yumira Ruiz, Michio Yoshida, Mitzi Fullbright, Akira Ito, Amanda Frazier. Back Row: Jon Crawford, Advisor, Sergey Kireyev, Dragan Djukic, Ricardo Beana. There was 43 international students on campus this year. The largest delegation came from Japan (15) followed by the Virgin Islands (8).

Dr. Robert Melvin retires from Mars Hill College as Professor of Religion, after thirty-nine years on the faculty. Before he arrived in Mars Hill as a teacher of History in 1958, he was an undergraduate student here, graduating from Mars Hill in 1951, from Baylor University with a BA in Religion in 1953, from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1957, from the University of North Carolina in 1960, from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1962. He studied at the University of Edinburgh in 1962-63, and earned a Doctor of

Divinity at Vanderbilt University in 1975. Far beyond these varied academic achievements, he has been a careful scholar of Bible studies and interpretation throughout his career. His Preaching Seminar for senior Religion majors has been a legend, and his moderating and inspiring influence have been received with gratitude and love by hundreds of religion students. His love and dedication to the college and the town of Mars Hill have been steady and deep; his walks down Bailey Street, in all seasons and all weather, have shown his de-

light in the landscape and in the town. His greatest joys in life have included his marriage to Ann Melvin, his three children, and his growing brood of grandchildren, whose births and achievements have been his unfailing topic of delighted conversation. When asked what characteristics and qualities best exemplify the heart and soul of Mars Hill College, many students, alumni, faculty and staff members, and friends of the College would simply name Bob Melvin.

REPORT MELVIN



Retiring from the Mars Hill College Department of Theater Arts after twenty-six years at the college, C. Robert Jones has been a teacher, director, musician, writer and composer throughout his career. He earned two Bachelor of Arts degrees at the University of South Carolina, in English/Spanish and in Education; an MA in Theater Literature at the University of Georgia, and an MFA in



RETIRING FACULTY

C. Robert Jones directs Dale McGiboney and Kelly Christianson in this year's production of *The Glass Menagerie*.

playwriting and directing at the Catholic University of America. At Mars Hill, he has served as Chair of the Theater Department, Chair of the Program in Musical Theater, and one of the earliest and most consistent contributors of texts and direction for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theater. Most remarkably, while carrying a full load of teaching, counseling, and directing assignments, he has

created more than twenty plays, musical comedies, and musical reviews. *Mandy Lou*, *A Belonging Place*, and *Lollapalooza*, three notable musical comedies written for the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theater, featured books, music and lyrics by C. Robert Jones. He has been awarded the David B. Marshall Award in Musical Theater, by the University of Michigan, for *Rivals* and *Chiaroscuro*. C. Robert

also wrote and directed a series of musical reviews, tracing the lives of notable American composers Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, and Stephen Foster.

The most recent of these historic musicals was *Bert Williams, Broadway Star*, which premiered in the fall of 1996. Jones began his career at Mars Hill College in the Fall of 1971 by directing *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. He ended his active

teaching career with a superb production of the same play. His achievements include the many young actors and singers he has trained and assisted in their personal and professional development. In retirement, he is sure to produce more new and original work, and the community will look forward to enjoying the products of his unflagging creative imagination.

NEW FACULTY

Dr. Jim Hood arrived in the English Department at Mars Hill College in the fall of 1996. After his first few classes as school began in August, an observant student asked him, "Have you had theater training?" The question was both an accurate guess and a compliment to Dr. Hood's dynamic and amusing teaching style. At his fortieth birthday

party last fall, friends saw several excellent photographs of a young Jim Hood in various American and classical dramas. His skills as a teacher and a wit have helped him in launching the Mars Hill program in Technical Writing, and he has assisted Virginia Bower, Director of the Mars Hill Writing Center, in orienting students to the new English Depart-

ment computer classroom in the Pittman Library. Students and faculty enjoy Dr. Hood's commitment and humor. He and his wife, Sarah Beth Terrell, and children Julia and Daniel, have been a strong addition to the college and the community.

JIM HOOD





A native of Texas and a graduate of the University of Houston, Phyllis Smith holds an MA from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte and a PhD in History from the University of Arizona. Arriving at Mars Hill College in the Fall of 1996, Dr. Smith accepted a dual appointment in History and Spanish. Her chosen fields of research are Mexican journalism and politics, and she has proven herself to be a shrewd

judge of the scene at Mars Hill as well. A dynamic teacher, she has attracted male and female students into the fields of History, Latin American politics, and International Business. After completing her extremely successful first year at Mars Hill College, she will lead a group of Mars Hill students on a study tour of Mexico immediately after graduation this spring.

Dr. Gregory Clemons arrived at Mars Hill College in the Fall of 1996 after completing his BA and MA degrees at the University of Wisconsin and his PhD at the University of Florida. His specialty is contemporary Latin American literature. At Mars Hill, he has proven to be an able

and compelling teacher of Spanish, a serious film buff, and a lover of contemporary music from north and south of the border. After a very successful first year at Mars Hill, he is leading a student study tour in San Cristobal de las Casas in southern Mexico.



Making Music

Big Bands on Campus



WIND SYMPHONY

FLUTE: Kelly Payne, Jennifer Paul, Jodie Hickey, Roz Reed, Brandy Gray.
BASS CLARINET: Brian Alexander, Joy Caviness. **TRUMPET:** Chris McKinney, Andy Washburn, Miena Huneycutt, Greg Ponder, Kim Martin.
PERCUSSION: Donnie Hero, Grant Michel, Ed Somech, Mark Sheaffer, O'Nicholas Lindsey, Jason Gilchrist, Jason Ware. **CLARINET:** Jenny Payne, Melanie Real, Hallie West, Donna Wilson, Amy Nesbitt, Kandy

Mace, Angie Davis, Jennifer Head.
HORNS: Jill Wilkerson, Jaynie Ollis, Sherry Fender, Cathy Baker. **EUPHONIUM:** J.P. Carney, Chad Sigler.
TUBA: Allen Buchanon, Jason Jones. **SAXOPHONE:** Greg Murphy, Patti Parker. **TENOR:** Howie Ledford.
TROMBONE: Greg Love, Sean Smith, Kevin Condrey, Jamie Davidson, Keith Reagan, Shane Marcus, Walt Summerlin. **OBOE:** Heather Levering.

CLARINET ENSEMBLE

The ensemble was directed by Denise Schmidt.





ON THE FIELD

The Marching Band performs at halftime of the 1996 Homecoming game. Football fans looked forward to musical entertainment at each game.

SAXOPHONE TRIO



TUBA & EUPHONIUM

Perfect Pitch

MHC Choir



"The choir is incredible! When I hear the choir I feel good about being a part of this college."

Ms. Peggy Gardner

SPRING TOUR '97

Senior Shamber Singers: Sarah Simmons, Dr. Joel Reed-Director, Andy Phillips, Christopher Reed, Virginia Sparks, Laura Barner, Amy Almquist, Miriam McKinney, Robin Garner-accompanist.

HALLOWEEN FUN

Choir members anticipate the annual Halloween party. The 1996 event, held at the Hester Center, was quite a social event.





REUNION CONCERT

The second Alumni Chord Reunion Concert, held in October, drew a warm and appreciative audience.



MAKING A SCENE

Choir Director, Dr. Joel Reed, proves to be quite adept at apple bobbing. This fearless man had what it took to capture the fruit.

ON THE ROAD

Old Town Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC, invited the choir and chamber singers to perform in February.

Creative

Learning Equals Fun



STRESS RELEASE?

Art Club member Nathan Ingles suffers through a Zen inspired drawing exercise in art class.



FASHION CLUB: Bottom Row-Brittany Howard- vice president, Vanessa Taylor, Tammy Phillips- Treasurer, Brandy Harwell: Second Row: Melynda Riddle -president. Back Row: Adviser Brenda Russell, Leslie Rose- secretary, Chandy Greene. Not pictured : Rebecca Cody.



ART CLUB at the National Gallery, Washington DC: Knealing in front-Ramona Janson and Susan Waters, standing: Anthony McKinney, Dr. Pat Verhurst, Andrea McKinney, Andy Phillips, Leslie Boone, Robin Ellis, Ms. Annemarie Lesage, Akira Ito, Diane Hutt, Luke Hargus



THE BIG APPLE

Members of the Fashion Club prepare to board the subway during the New York study tour.

A GOOD WITCH

Jillian Knight dresses as Glenda the Good Witch for the Beaux Arts Ball sponsored by the Art Club. The ball was held in the Loft on Halloween.



The Kendo Club was founded by **AKIRA ITO** and was made an official Mars Hill club this year with the blessing of Dr. Lennon.

KENDO CLUB: Scott Melton, Gregory Ponder, Paul Myers, Joshua Callahan and Dale McGiboney.

National Champs

MHC Bailey Mountain Cloggers



THE TEAM

Bottom Row: Matt Koziuk, Jennifer Hattaway, Kevin Griffin, Amy Leenhouts, Craig Morrison, Cheryl Renfro, Sabrina Henderson, Shannon Jones. Second Row: Gypsy Kimbrough, Evelyn Craig, Shanata Garren, Amy McClellan, Felishia Tonkin, Mark Clifford, Ginger Wilkins, Patrick Nelson. Third Row: Amanda Thien, Micheal Scrip, Cortni Weiland, Christine Dillman, Jay Ledford, Luke Johnson, Lori Milton, Hope Ward, Danni Fusco, Laurie Henderson, Courtney Scott. Not pictured: Colin Ditty, Laura Hopkin, Rexann Bradburn.

IN LINE

The Cloggers lead the crowd in a line dance during President Lennon's Inaugural Dance.





PARTNERED UP

Dancing to fiddle music inside Blackwell Hall, the cloggers participate in the celebration of Mar's Hill's history.

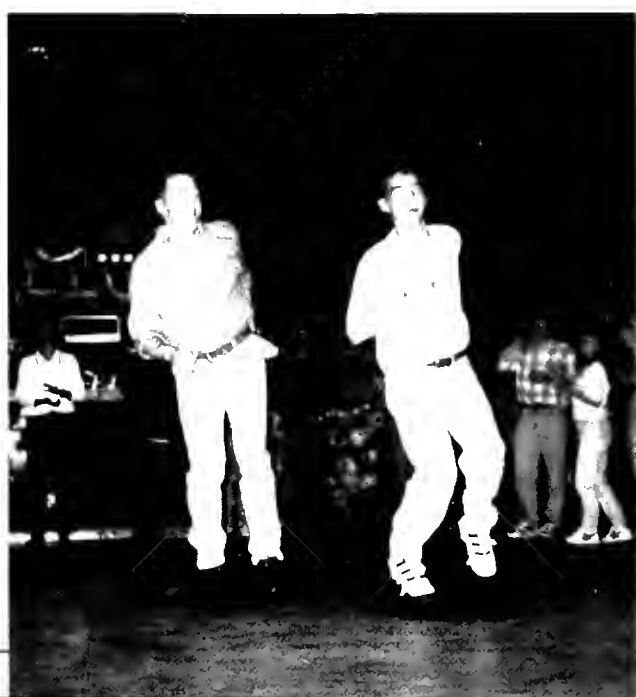


GO GIRLS!

The Henderson sisters, Latrine and Sabrina, set the pace at the Loft.

CLOG AWAY

Colin Ditty and Craig Morrison circle the Loft as they respond to the steps of their partners.



EXPECT ANYTHING

One of the offspring of the theatre department is the improvisation group HALF-PAST FUNNY, seen here during a pregnant rehearsal. Most of the founding members are graduating this year or have already moved on: Keith Michel, Josh Callahan, Robert Staton and Chris Eckstadt.

DYING HAMLET

Keith Michel absorbs himself in the pain of his character.



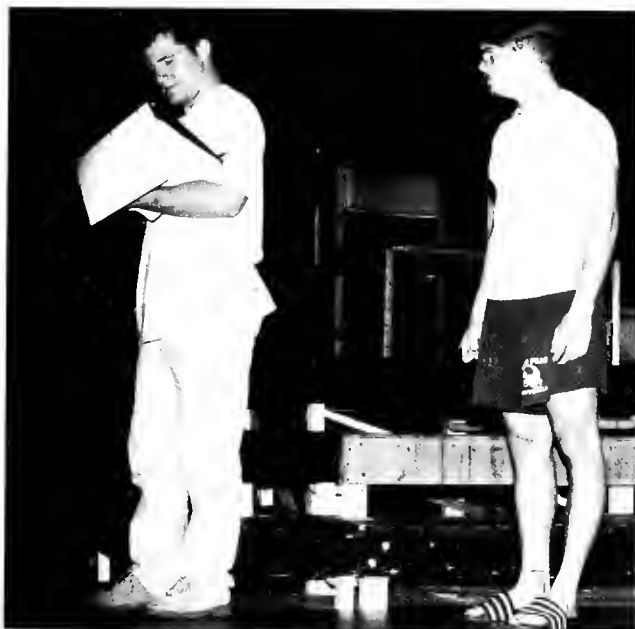
HEARME, MYLORD

John Ward and Chris Eckstadt rehearse their roles in Hamlet.



Acting Up

Theatre Provides Entertainment



The year was marked by a number of great classics, *Hamlet*, *The Glass Menagerie* and by some important premieres such as *Burt Williams* written by C.Robert Jones in his last season at MHC.



TO BE OR NOT TO BE

Reading his lines, Josh Callahan who played Hamlet in the fall production, practices with Mike Lanaghan. The play was performed in traditional costumes in Owen Theater.

INTENSE AND FOCUSED

Geena Metcalf rehearses her role for Hamlet.

Living It Up

Life At Its Finest

STROUP STAFF

Amy Slusher-Resident Director,
Michelle Baxley, Carla Helton,
Kerry Reed, Sarah Ramirez-
Resident Advisors.

HUFFMAN STAFF

Milo Henderson-Resident
Director, Phillip Redding, Rob
Staton, Stacy Bailey-Resident
Advisors.



EDNA MOORE STAFF

Jennifer Black-Resident Director,
Lanese Belschner, Cortni
Weiland, Kerri McNaughton-
Resident Advisors.





MYERS HALL

Patrick Nelson-Resident
Director, Tommy Hornick-
Resident Advisor.

APARTMENT STAFF

Richard Myers-Resident
Director, Mikey Lenaghan,
Elhisa Martin, Holly Myers-
Resident Advisors.



GIBSON STAFF

Sean Kelley-Resident Director,
Walt Fletcher, Kevin Griffin-
Resident Advisors.

FOX STAFF

Amy Harris-Resident Director,
Matilda Brewer, Rebekah
Manns, Mandy Luke-Resident
Advisors.



ON TOUR

Amy Parker directs the New Beginnings Gospel group performing in Salisbury, NC for a youth group.



CHAPEL MOMENTS

Chaplain Paula Dempsey leads the campus congregation during a weekly worship service. Chapel services were an important part of the lives of Mars Hill students.



ACT ONE

In addition to singing, the New Beginnings group kept their audiences attention with well rehearsed silent skills like "Another Time, Another Place."





Religious Life

Experiencing The Holy

There were numerous opportunities for students to be involved in campus religious life. The 10:00 am chapel services provided a consistent worship experience and featured exceptional speakers and preachers as well as talented musicians.

In September, Faith Focus Week offered students evening services and featured Dr. Hardy Clemons and Hank Lueck. In February, Dr. Russell Dilday, Professor of Homiletics at Baylor

University inspired students and faculty with his preaching and his presence during Christian Focus Week.

The Christian Student Movement was an active and dedicated group of 103 students who worked to foster Christian community on campus. The group's ministries included clown and drama teams that worked with area churches, journey teams that led weekend revivals and youth retreats, mission projects in and out of

state, and singing performances by the New Beginning Singers. The NBS performed around western North Carolina and spent 7 days in May touring in Tennessee.

Spiritual Growth Groups were formed to offer students a specific time, place and community for prayer. Formed at a weekend retreat, this fast became an important group for many students.

CSM OFFICERS

Shannon Powell, Aaron Hawkins, Michelle Baker, Renee Wyatt, Shanda West, Chris Fox, Mitzi Fullbright, Veronica Sapek, Tamara Crain, Meina Honeycutt, Rachel Davis.



Broyhill Chapel





At the college level, athletes don't just play games. They play to win. They play to be champions, to be known as number one.

They know that to obtain this goal they must work hard. They must practice hard. They

must play to win. To Mars Hill athletes winning meant two practices a day. It meant

missing homecoming to compete in the big race. It meant staying up late, after an intense

practice, to study. It meant sprained ankles, and torn ligaments. It meant ice packs, and

Ben-Gay. But, when it was all over, it meant that being just a little competitive had payed off.

It meant that they were champions.

just a little

Competitive

The football team listens to their coach, as he explains how to be competitive.

Cosmo at Homecoming, as played by Marcus Chavez.



Go *Lions* Go!

Consisting of motivated women and men the cheerleading squad's spirit was high. Whitney Davis, senior, acted as their coach and, together with team members, worked toward raising the status of cheerleading at MHC to a recognized athletic activity. Dr. Lennon supplied them with substantial financial support allowing them to buy new uniforms and, more importantly, to pay their way to cheerleading camp this summer. The future never looked better.



Football Cheerleaders Bottom: Tara Short, Hope Rowland, Melynda Riddle, Heather cocker, Misti Shuford, Jamie McGuire; top: Justin Combs, Whitney Rose, in costume is Marcus Chavez, Brian O'Donnel and Mike Meeker.

Exitement increases on the sideline as the Lions successfully trounce their opponent.





The cheerleaders motivate the crowd as our team gets ready to take the field.



“This group has come a long way. They’re organized, motivated and we hope to be at competition status within 12 months”.

Craig Goforth, adviser



Cosmo's gets into trouble again.

“We were a young team that learned quickly. It should show as we return for next season.”

Coach Bill Shook



“This season was basically about the girls learning to be a team in order to set the foundation for the future.”

Coach Jeff Wilson



Keep it *airbound*

A young volleyball team started the 1996 season and worked hard to win 22 of their 38 games. A strong defense and an aggressive offense upset a few teams, such as Wingate, the two time defending champions, beating them twice. Alison Shannonhouse made the the first team, all conference player and was named MVP. She led the nation in digs with an average of 5.4 per game.

The softball team was made up of sophomores and freshman only. They had a good season considering that the team was only a few years old. By the end of the season they played the best they had all year. One of the proudest moments was beating Elon College (second place) at the first round of the SAC tournament.

Volleyball Team: Front row: Bill Shook, Jennifer Anderson, Lesley Bentzel, Nicole Silver, Kelly Samson, Amy Brock, Joel Moffat, Ryan Clerco; Back; Kim Herbers, E. J. Slovak, Nichole Gilstarp, Alison Shannonhouse, Brittney Wilkenson

Softball Team: Front row: Jeff Wilson, LaTisha Steele, Laura Warner, Llannie Ranzer, AnnMarie Grunder, Kelly Castronover, Chris Heppding; Back row: Sava Boucakis, Natasha Sanders, Amy Windham, Mistie Cunningham, E.J. Slovak, Tami Behr.



Kelly, Lesley and Alison hang out until volleyball season starts over again

a Winning *mix*

Tennis games at Mars Hill College became multicultural affairs. Players were recruited from around the globe including such places as St. Lucia, India, Romania, Japan, Argentina, Peru, Germany, and Guadeloupe. A few Americans rounded out the teams. This ethnic mix made for strong friendships on and off the courts.

Both teams were in rebuilding phases with many young players. Coach Johnson said that both freshmen Barbara Soto from Argentina and Jean Francois Danican from Guadeloupe had outstanding years and were all-conference performers. Optimism is high for next season.



MEN'S TENNIS: Mircea Matei, Richardo Baena, Michio Yoshida, Mattias Weckesser. Back: Jean-Francois Danican, Steven Kramp, Mario St., Clair Canail, Sid Narasimhan.



Barbara Soto and Joy Stallard share smiles over a scored point in a doubles match.



Teammates Ricardo Baena, Jean-Francois Danican, Mircea Matei take some time off at a practice session.

Coach Dave Johnson gets in a quick workout. Coaches had to stay in shape just to keep up with the players!



“We were a young team with many new players who were excited about being a part of rebuilding the year.”

Coach David Johnson

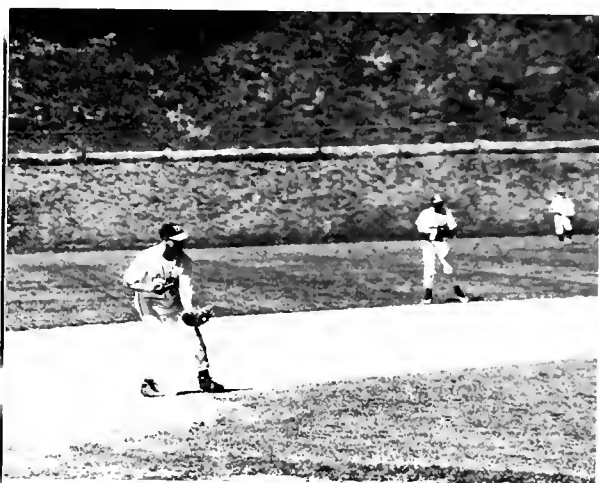


WOMEN'S TENNIS Barbara Soto, Jennifer Schommer, Amanda Hunt, Maria Adela- Perez Albela. Back: Mayumi Yamada, Angela Bellartz, Teresa Coleman, Rebekah Mains, Joy Stallard

Shooting straight down the fairway, Brian Johnson keeps his eyes on the ball.

Pitcher Ryan Rector takes the signal from the catcher and fires one in.

Third baseman, Nick Beaver, mentally prepares himself for a line drive.



GOLFTEAM: Bobby Anglin, Andy Scott, Daniel Byrd, James Hall, Coach Ed Hoffmyer, Brian Johnson, Tom Tsika, Jeremy Pressley, Don Franklin.

Preparing to steal second base, a quick Jason Corn anticipates the pitcher's next move.





just Swinging *away*

Bringing home the "hardware" was a first for the Mars Hill golf team and this team was highly deserving. Although Coach Hoffmeyer believed the year was a rebuilding one, winning was the team's MO. Coming in second at the Camp Lejeune Tournament was a major highlight for the year as was a strong second place finish at the Tusculum Invitational Tournament. Players Tom Tsike, a junior, and Bobby Anglin, a freshman, had their own personal success stories with outstanding play throughout the season.

Even with a streak of 5 wins in the middle of the season, the 12-32 record was somewhat disappointing to the Baseball Team. Micheal Kimsey, junior, distinguished himself by hitting .365 and leading the team in RBI's, in home runs, doubles and in ERA. He was named M.V.P. Junior Jeff Goard, a three year starter, received the coaches award. Eli Kuirino, a sophomore, hit .362 and was named the most improved.



BASEBALL TEAM: Front Row: Joel Moffat, J.P. Flynn, Keith Hatcher, Sam Dyer, Eli Kuirino, Jeff Goard, Isaac Kanarr, Sammy Hooper, Mike Sterling, Pat Ensley, Nick Beaver. Back Row: Jason Com, Adrian Clark, Todd Reagan, Kyle Smith, Jeremy West, Danny Cronin, Chuck Vines, Mike Kimsey, Ryan Rector, Scotty Ruff, Brent Jones.

a Winning *strategy*

With a young team and expectations of a rebuilding year, claiming the Lady Lion Classic Tournament championship was a big surprise and a highlight of the season for the women's team. Senior players and captains Jackie Shelton (a second team all conference player) and Elizabeth Pippin contributed great skills and leadership to the team and kept their teammates motivated. Because of her consistent outstanding play, junior Tara Pitmanon was selected as a first team all conference player and made the all tournament team as well.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Bottom Row: Alison Shannonhouse, Leslie Cox, Elizabeth Pippin, Jackie Shelton, Amy Small, Terra Pittman, Wendy Haneline. Second Row: Kazve Kasahara, Reggie Oakes, Sylvia White, Sherry Brown, Jennifer Miller. Back Row: Holly Harwood, Misty Capps, Sara Wilson, Mistie Cunningham, Angela King, Kim Mason, Jennifer Mitchell.



Jennifer Mitchell, Misty Capps, Holly Harwood, Amy Small, Angela King, and Mistie Cunningham supply sideline support to the teammates on the floor.



Coach Sylvia White explains the strategy for the game's final minute. The team pulled out several wins in the closing moments never buckling under pressure.

Suzie Hobson-Sheton, '96, receives the All American Plaque from Kodak. The college retired her jersey honoring her exceptional play and skill during her years on the team.



The young Lady Lions surprised everyone by winning the Lady Lion Classic Tournament.



Team captains Jackie Shelton and Elizabeth Pippin provided much of the leadership for the women's team.

Teammates huddle one last time before their opponents take the court. Good communication among players was a key factor in the season's successes.

James Barber scores two more points to add to his point total that led the South Atlantic Conference.

“The record was indicative of a young team. We played better by the end of the year which included a 6 game winning streak”.

Coach Baker





a Hoop *dream*

Team spirit remained strong despite a slow start opening the season. The final score reads 12/15. Senior, James Barber, a three time all conference player, led the young team. He also led the South Atlantic Conference in scoring this season, with an average of 19.7 points per game. Also noteworthy were sophomore Kevin Whitt's solid post-play and junior Sean Rumfelt's good floor leadership. The team won 8 out of 9 games by the end of the season which raised the spirits and gave them a strong foundation for next year. Keeping the momentum going, they worked hard in the post-season.



MEN'S BASKETBALL: Bottom Row: Kevin Whitt, Ronnie Cutshall, Josh Fountain, James Barber, Albert Perkins, Andrew Brown, Ali Cowan. Second Row: Megan Harris, Erik Clark, David Riggins, Duggar Baucom, Vellie Barnwell, Chris Heppding. Third Row: Jesse Barber, Thomas Head, Chris Greene, Sean Rumfelt, Wes Conner, Phillip Heppding, Chester Veatheroy.

a Very good *year*

Both cross country teams had their best season ever. The men finished second in the conference just a few points behind the first team. The women ranked an outstanding tenth out of sixty six regional teams, and fourth in the conference. The women finished tenth in spite of a sprained ankle for Liz Hill who bravely completed the race for the team. We have five all conference runners: Heather Levering, Adrien Cooper, Eric Jaeger, Brac Salyers and Jennifer Wiggins, the last two being MVR for our teams. Eric Jaeger was named the all conference freshman of the year and Brock Bailey the First Union S.A.C. Scholar Athlete. Lastly, Coach Owens received the all conference men's coach of the year award.



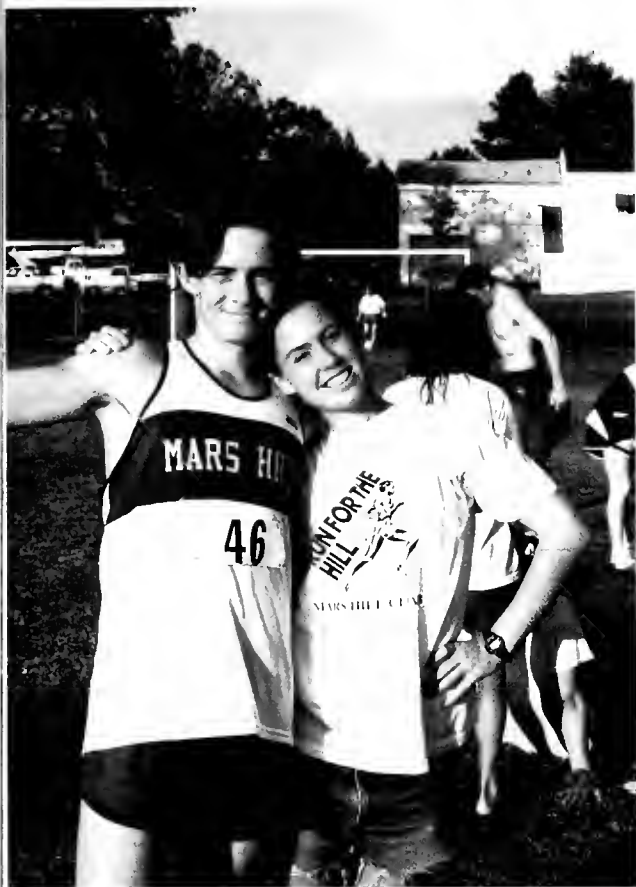
MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY: Front row: Sergio Arenas, Chris Bradley, Brac Salyers, Micheal Gutierrez, Adrien Cooper; Top row: Benji Keisler, Micheal Hawkins, Jason Saylor (capt.), R.J. Reynolds, Eric Jaeger, Brock Bailey, Coach Owens, Brian Hastly.



Captain and only senior Jen Davis in the midst of a race.

Heather Levering runs a beautiful race.





Eric Jeager and Jennifer Wiggins celebrate at the end of a good day.

WOMEN'S TRACK TEAM finished 3rd in the conference. Top row: Samantha Francoeur, Coach Owens, Amanda Metcalf, Cindi Maxwell; Bottom row: Mitzi Fullbright, Jennifer Wiggins and Liz Hill.



“Both teams made the step up to a higher level and had wonderful seasons. The women being nationally rank was quite an achievement”

Coach Mike Owens



WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY: Jennifer Wiggins, Heather Levering, Tammy Philips, Jaime Binde, Jennifer Davis (Capt.), Rosemary Burnett, Liz Hill, Terra Pitman.

Battling for possession, the Mars Hill team comes up with the ball and heads downfield.

Holly Harwood's powerful kick sends the ball full speed ahead to a waiting teammate. Sally's offense skills contributed to the teams many wins.



Outmaneuvering an opponent, Kelly Gutmann passes downfield to teammate Casia Belk.



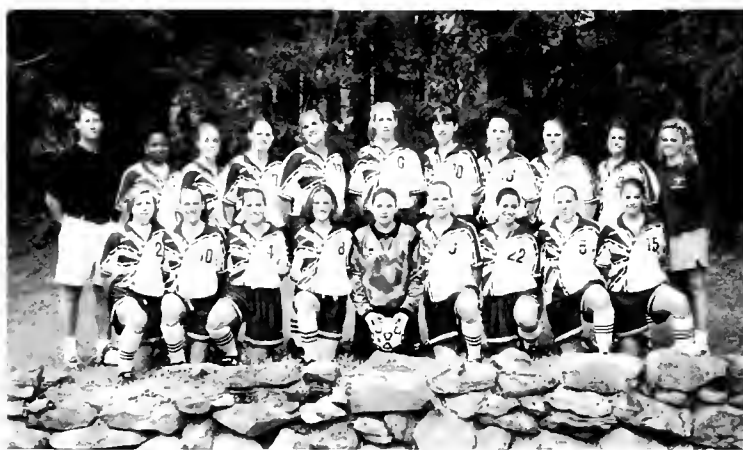
Heading the ball away from an opposing player, Carrie Hartmann works for ball control.

With the prowess of a pro, Elizabeth Hill dribbles the ball toward scoring position for her teammates.



the Best *yet*

Having their best season ever, the Lady Lions soccer team finished at an enviable fifth place in the South Atlantic Conference, winning 10, losing 6 and tying 2. The winning season was accomplished with only three seniors and one junior. The team was lead by captain Kathy Innis, the MVP was AnnMarie Grunder, Freshman of the year was Holly Harwood and best offensive player was Natasha Sanders. One of the best moment of the year was an overtime win against Lees McCrae thanks to a goal from Kelly Gutmann.



Women's Soccer: Bottom Row: Hope Lloyd, Ashlyn Whitson, Casia Belk, Christon Milligan, Diane Paleno, Tammy Simpson, Laine, Ranzer, Holly Harwood, Beth Wyman. Back Row: Coach Dave Bennett, Kim Tucker, Kathy Ennis, Kelley Gutmann, Lorelle Post, Jill Hipkins, Leah Pinckney, Carrie Hartmann, Natasha Sanders, AnnMarie Grunder, Trainer Shelley Bundy.

a HeadsUp *game*

With 12 wins, 4 losses and 4 ties, the men's soccer team had by far the best year on record in the history of the team. The Lions lead by their captain, Tory Killian, advanced to the semi-final in the SAC tournament and took 4th place in the Conference. Jeremy Jordan broke the conference's record for assist with 20 while teammate Ben Hoersherl was named the MVP as well as outstanding defender. The offensive player of the year was John (Catfish) Hunter with 17 goals and 7 assists. This team finished 8th in the South Atlantic Conference and had the 6th best offense in the nation with 70 goals. The team said a special goodbye to its only senior Mike Walley.



MEN'S SOCCER: Bottom Row: Cory Stanley, Steve Marshall, Hunter West, Troy Killian, John Hunter, Ben Hoecherl, Neil Wagner. Second Row: Chris Christ, Tom Bayliss, Andrew Kirk, Andy Thompson, Pat Piscitell, Greg Weigel, Matt Littleton, Mike Whatley, Teresa Mitchell. Back Row: Jay Lurie, Andy Henderson, John Spillman, Austyn Piel, Mike Jones, Brian Ellwood, Jeremy Jordan.



A rough and tumble game at Ames, soccer players rise to the challenge as this Mars Hill player heads the ball toward the opponent's goal.



The opponents are up in the air as the Mars Hill team attempts to pass the ball downfield.

Outmaneuvering an opponent a Mars Hill player prepares for a kick to a waiting teammate.



"I am especially grateful to all of these players for the many 'firsts' that we experienced this year."

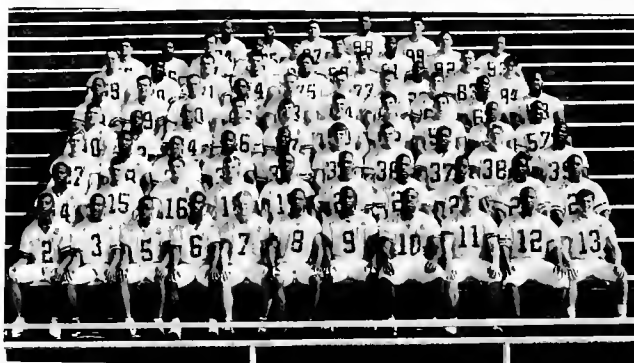
Couch Crist



A strong kick by Brian Ellwood speeds toward a waiting teammate.

a Strong *finish*

Ask Coach Tim Clifton if he had two different ball teams this year and listen to him chuckle. What appeared to be a struggling Lion football team during the first of the season, came on strong at the end winning the last five games. What was their secret? According to Coach Clifton, the team was a tight knit group of determined young men who never gave up. And the determination and dedication paid off. The senior players provided the leadership and set the determined tone that carried the team through.



FOOTBALL ROSTER: Alvis James, Lamark Cash, Marlon Knox, Kevin Schmick, Patrick Johnson, Jermaine Mitchell, Brandon Allan, Ayinde Carroll, Redriggis Gillie, Stacie Gresham, Jon Wilson, Scott Chestnut, Craig Bost, Omar Collier, Tyrone Williams, Ryan Habich, Chris Rumpfalt, Keith Hatcher, Gregory Matthews, Trevor Ross, Mondarius Henry, Sidney Simms, Leon Williams, Dymond Jones, Rico Stephens, Tim Lynch, Jeremy Cochran, Torrey Smith, Daniel Woodward, Eric Lang, James Woods, Lewis Williams, Michael Holton, Stacy Bailey, Thomas Hornick, Levi Lanham, Maurice Pratt, Chad Nash, Samuel Reasee, Michael Mitchell, Marcus Adeyemi, Anthony Boyd, Josh Daniel, Frankdu Cilla, Jr., La Tyler Truelove, Randy Strong, Kevin Galloway, Tony Chavis, Gregory Melikian, Cedric Scott, Robert Bettis, Adam Nelson, Chris Makins, Ryan Goldin, Ronnie Bowen, Frank Chollet, Mike Ramseur, Jeremy Cochran, Jimmy Gerrin, Theo Wall, Che Curry, James Eudy, Joe Lambert, Marcus Williams, Brian Smith, Jaison Hollis, John Hammond, Tim Baker, Brandon Woodard, Brent Loooper, Gene Mullis, Richard Pearson, Myron McClellan, Mike Crowder, Matthew Richardson, Jeff Hodnett, Phillip Cole, Jason Lowen, Shawn Witcher, Michael Byrley, Tim Collier, Todd Samples, Quentin Hall, Bradley Biddle, David McDaniel, Tory Bell, Kelvin Jones, Gianni Sims, Alan Justice, Joe Rizzo, Lee Mollman, Corey Thomas, Gary Duvall, Kendell Rucker, Jeff Crane.



The Lions' offensive line holds back the defense and creates a few holes. The offense came on strong as the season winded down.



Creating enough time to pass, the offensive line does its job as quarterback Jon Wilson passes for yardage.

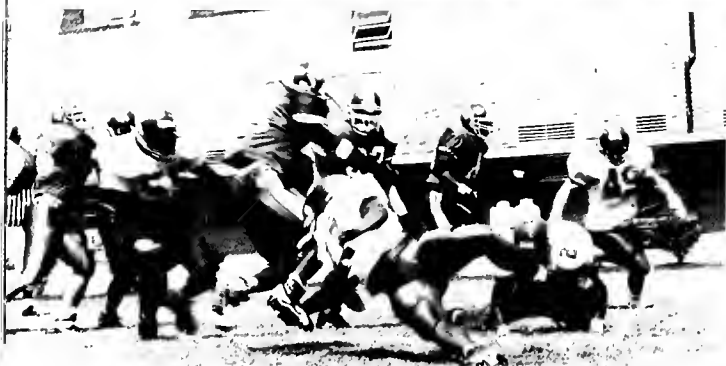
Coach Tim Clifton discusses game strategy with quarterback Jon Wilson during a crucial timeout.



Taking a breather before going back into the game, players regroup mentally and discuss the opponent's weaknesses.

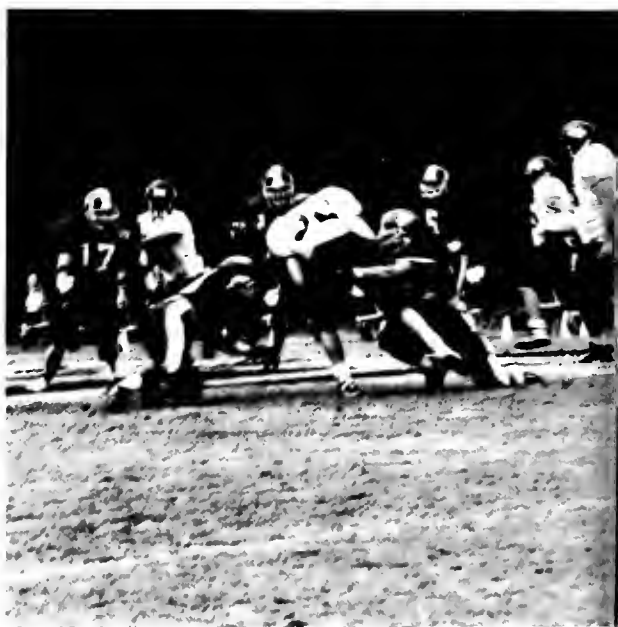
The Lions defensive team focuses on sacking the opposing quarterback.

Denying the pass to the opposing player was a tough responsibility, but this Mars Hill player successfully does so.



The defense forces a fumble and the Lions recover.

A strong Lion tackle denies yardage to the opposing team and forces them to punt.





the Defense *holds*



As players from both teams dive for the ball, teammates and fans wait in suspense to see who recovers.

An out of bounds kick causes some confusion as each team looks to the umpire for a call.

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COLOPHON

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The cover design used a Lake Blue base material with a white silkscreen paint applied. A gold foil was applied as well. A recycled Crystalline stock was used for the endsheets. Binding was Smyth sewn, rounded and backed. An 80 lb. Bordeaux gloss enamel paper was used throughout the book.

Body copy was set in Times Roman with caption and headline fonts and point sizes varied from section to section. The entire yearbook was produced on Power Macintosh computers using PageMaker 5.0 and Herff Jones Pagemaster templates.





What made Mars Hill College just a little different in 1997 was the community of people. From students and faculty to a new administration, the MHC campus buzzed with excitement and anticipation as the year held much promise for new ideas and new ways of being community. The struggles and challenges, celebrations and triumphs, molded the year into a uniqueness that surpassed expectations. In some ways, the year was beyond expression. One that could only be felt. Learning, playing, working, and relating, students wove the threads of community, creating a year that was

just a little

Different

Autumn time is particularly beautiful at Mars Hill College. The oaks and maples on campus add to autumn's brilliance.

Acknowledgements

Many, many thanks to so many of you

The making of the Laurel '97 has been a learning experience for this adviser / editor. We had a slow start and an editor change in midstream but we made it. Since we opted for a fall delivery date, the yearbook reflects the whole academic year right down to graduation day for the first time in many years.

A yearbook is an important undertaking and it could not have been possible without a lot of support from student, faculty and staff. Thanks to Sarah Simmons's dramatic "Student Apathy" article in the Hilltop, everyone was sensitive to my last minute demands and quick to help me. A special thanks to the Sigma girls indiscriminately, on whom I leaned heavily at any time of day.

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- Annemarie Lesage









